REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

1 July 1989-30 June 1990

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 13 (A/45/13)

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CONTENTS

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
	LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL		v
	LETTER DATED 30 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL		vii
I.	INTRODUCTION	1 - 19	1
II.	GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AGENCY PROGRAMMES	20 - 44	6
	A. Education	20 - 27	6
	B. Health	28 - 37	7
	C. Relief and social services	38 - 44	10
III.	JORDAN	45 - 55	13
	A. Education	45 - 47	13
	B. Health	48 - 51	13
	C. Relief and social services	52 - 55	14
IV.	LEBANON	56 - 69	16
	A. Education	56 - 57	16
	B. Health	58 - 61	16
	C. Relief and social services	62 - 65	17
	D. Emergency operations and reconstruction	66 - 69	17
V.	SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	70 - 79	19
	A. Education	70 - 72	19
	B. Health	73 - 75	19
	C. Relief and social services	76 - 79	20
VI.	OCCUPIED TERRITORY	80 - 106	21
	A. Education	80 - 85	21
	B. Health	86 - 92	22

CONTENTS (continued)

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
	C. Relief and social services	93 - 98	24
	D. Extraordinary measures of general assistance and protection	99 - 101	26
	E. Expanded programme of assistance	102 - 106	26
VII.	LEGAL MATTERS	107 - 121	28
	A. Agency staff	107 - 112	28
	B. Agency services and premises	113 - 120	29
	C. Claims against Governments	121	31

Annexes

I.	Statistical and financial information	32
II.	Pertinent records of the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies	50

READEX FICHE

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

11 September 1990

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to the General Assembly my annual report on the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for the period 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1990, in compliance with the request in paragraph 21 of resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and with paragraph 8 of resolution 1315 (XIII) of 12 December 1958.

In the introduction (chap. I), I have concentrated largely upon the impact on the lives of the Palestine refugees of the situations prevailing in Lebanon and in the occupied territory of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. As a consequence of these situations, the Agency was functioning under difficult circumstances and running emergency operations in three of its five fields throughout the period covered by this report.

Chapter II provides an overview of major developments in the Agency's three main programmes of education, health and relief and social services, while summaries of activities in each of the five fields is contained in chapters III to VI. The emergency operations and reconstruction programme in Lebanon are set out in chapter IV. The Agency's programme of extraordinary measures in the occupied territory to meet humanitarian needs created by the intifadah and countermeasures taken by the Israeli authorities is dealt with in chapter VI, as is the expanded programme of assistance which aims principally to improve the miserable conditions under which refugees live in the camps of the West Bank and Gaza. Those additional programmes have been funded by contributions from UNRWA's regular donors and other countries. However, as I point out in the introduction, in 1989 it was necessary to use some $US 3 million from the regular budget to finance these activities. At the time of writing, some $US 12 million was still required in order for the Agency to continue emergency programmes at the current level until the end of 1990, while no specific commitment had been received for 1991. As a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, UNRWA hopes that the Assemly, with your personal support, will make a special effort to ensure that the Agency's emergency humanitarian assistance will be maintained as long as the need for it remains, in adherence with the recommendations of the Advisory Commission.

Legal matters are dealt with in chapter VII, while the two annexes contain statistical tables and charts illustrating the composition of the Palestine refugee population in the area of operations and the Agency's main programmes, and references to documents of the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies related to UNRWA. In order to provide the General Assembly with the most up-to-date information in conformity with previous practice, budget estimates for 1991 and other financial data will be presented in an addendum to the present report in early October.

The President of the General Assembly
United Nations
New York

This report was examined in draft form by the members of UNRWA's Advisory Commission, and their comments have been given careful attention in the preparation of the final text. The Advisory Commission's views are set out in the Chairman's letter of 30 August, a copy of which appears hereafter.

Once again, I have deemed it appropriate to maintain the practice of showing my report in draft form to representatives of the Government of Israel and to give consideration to their comments in view of the fact that a major part of the Agency's operations takes place in the territory occupied by Israel since 1967.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Giorgio GIACOMELLI
Commissioner-General

LETTER DATED 30 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL

Dear Mr. Giacomelli,

During its regular meeting on 30 August 1990, UNRWA's Advisory Commission considered your draft report on the Agency's activities during the period 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1990, which is to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. The Commission examined a draft version of UNRWA's budget for 1991.

The Advisory Commission is convinced that the provision of extensive services in the area of health, education and relief and social welfare, as well as the emergency assistance extended in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and in Lebanon, where the population is confronted with extremely precarious living conditions, are tasks of the utmost importance, which the Agency is fulfilling in conformity with appropriate General Assembly resolutions.

The Advisory Commission believes that the activities of the Agency are an indispensable contribution in preventing the situation from deteriorating to an extent where efforts in favour of a just and lasting solution of the Palestinian question would be jeopardized. Aware of the increasingly difficult situation in which UNRWA is operating, the Advisory Commission is of the opinion that the Agency's emergency services must continue to be provided as long as they are needed. It urges member Governments and others to contribute generously to the financing of UNRWA activities both under the regular budget and for emergency programmes.

The Advisory Commission notes with appreciation the efforts of the Governments of host countries to facilitate the operations of UNRWA, as well as the activities, contributions and assistance of these Governments on behalf of the Palestine refugees.

The Advisory Commission commends UNRWA for the measure of protection its general assistance is providing the Palestine refugees in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and requests the Agency to continue on a flexible and emergency basis general assistance to the population in need.

Mr. Giorgio Giacomelli
Commissioner-General of the
United Nations Relief and
Works Agency for Palestine
Refugees in the Near East

The Advisory Commission remains concerned that, despite calls for an end to interferences with UNRWA operations by the government authorities described in your report, these difficulties have increased during the period. This can only add to the suffering of the population concerned and lessen the ability of Agency operations to alleviate them. The Commission therefore urges the authorities mentioned above, to respect fully the Agency's status, including the inviolability of its premises and the security and the freedom of movement of its personnel, and to extend to it all necessary assistance, both regarding its regular and emergency activities.

The Advisory Commission notes that, at the request of the Government of Jordan and upon the Advisory Commission's recommendations, the Agency intends, while taking into account the financial implications, to incorporate a tenth year into its education programme to fit in with the ten-year compulsory education cycle now in force in that country. It also notes that the same measure will be extended to the West Bank by the occupying Power, thus adding to the financial burden carried by UNRWA. The Commission therefore appeals to Governments to assist UNRWA in meeting these requirements.

The Advisory Commission commends the role played by UNRWA, in co-ordination with the Government of Jordan and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, in providing humanitarian assistance to Palestine refugees and other displaced persons from the Gulf region.

The Advisory Commission notes with interest UNRWA's intention to work out a biennial planning and budgeting cycle, and its provision of budget estimates for 1991.

The members of the Advisory Commission thank the Secretary-General for his continued personal support of the Agency and the interest he consistently shows in UNRWA's activities. They also wish to express once again their appreciation, Mr. Commissioner-General, for the unwavering commitment shown by you and your staff, and for UNRWA's vigorous response to the many challenges it faces in carrying out its mandate.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Georges VILAIN XIIII
Chairman of the Advisory Commission

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the introduction to last year's report, I noted how events in the area of operations had created additional needs among Palestine refugees and, at the same time, raised new expectations of the Agency on the part of the international community. The spectrum of requirements had never been so wide: traditional programmes, emergency assistance, protection in the form of general assistance, social and developmental functions all had come to be seen as different but equally necessary elements in the performance of the mandate.

2. Those trends were confirmed and reinforced over the past year. The Agency responded by strengthening its traditional programmes, elaborating new approaches and activities that would better satisfy the requirements of the beneficiaries, while striving to overcome a variety of difficulties, financial and otherwise. In so doing, it became essential to ensure a steady flow of information to Member States as well as to the beneficiaries to secure their understanding and support. I see my annual report as an important means to that end. Detailed information about the activities of UNRWA is provided later in the report; in keeping with past practice, this introduction highlights some general concerns.

3. In Lebanon, the reporting period began with the sea blockade of east Beirut and heavy shelling and fighting, particularly in the central area of the country. Subsequent developments involving a variety of political and military forces were often accompanied by violence and led to a roller coaster of hopes and delusions. Palestinians, along with the least privileged sectors of Lebanese society, bore the heavy consequences of the violence, lack of security and continuing economic difficulties. Some 23,000 Palestinians were displaced by the turmoil and it is estimated that 43 registered refugees were killed as a direct consequence of it.

4. For many months, however, refugee camps were not physically affected and, in spite of occasional disruptions, the repair and rehabilitation of shelters continued, particularly in Shatila and Burj el-Barajneh camps. A major exception occurred in February 1990 when more than 20 per cent of shelters were damaged or destroyed by heavy shelling in the refugee camp of Dbayeh near Jounieh. In the latter part of the reporting period, active involvement of Palestinians in the fighting led to an increase in the casualties and caused some damage in camps such as Rashidieh and Ein el-Hilweh. Israeli air raids over southern Lebanon also caused casualities and destruction.

5. The Agency managed to carry on its regular programmes and to provide a degree of emergency assistance. Schools in the central Lebanon area made up for the time lost in the previous school year and four emergency food distributions to about 230,000 beneficiaries were successfully completed. Following the decision taken last year to relocate part of the operations from Beirut to Siblin, in March 1990 major operational difficulties and an increasingly complex security situation led to a further readjustment with the transfer of administrative units and supply and transport facilities from Siblin to Bar Elias in the Beqa'a valley, which is closer to the alternative supply route now reaching Lebanon via Latakia and Damascus. The Agency was, however, following developments closely and looked forward to returning its entire Lebanon headquarters operations to Beirut as soon as circumstances permitted.

6. Meanwhile, I must draw attention again to the Agency's constant preoccupation caused by the need to manage and control a large programme of activities while trying to ensure staff safety. Threats, physical violence and the danger of kidnapping were most worrying. Palestinians were affected by the high state of tension and uncertainty throughout most of the country, and this was occasionally reflected in the aggressive behaviour of some individuals or groups in their dealings with the Agency and its staff.

7. Given the prevailing circumstances in Lebanon, UNRWA continued to extend emergency assistance as well as most of its regular programmes, including education, to the entire Palestinian community and not merely to registered refugees. It also actively participated with other United Nations agencies and international relief organizations in activities to provide assistance to the Lebanese population in general. Thus, for instance, from January 1990 onwards UNRWA made available water tankers to help the Government in its efforts to supply water to west Beirut, and it provided relief in the form of food and other basic necessities to Lebanese families in Dbayeh.

8. In the occupied territory of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the intifadah continued throughout the reporting period. Its intensity varied in a highly charged atmosphere where diverse developments, including those on the political scene, could unleash extremely violent confrontations and high casualties. The Israeli authorities continued to apply harsh repressive measures, and violations of human rights were widespread. Between 1 July 1989 and 30 June 1990, 85 Palestinians were killed in Gaza and 164 in the West Bank. More than 20,000 sought emergency medical attention in local hospitals and the Agency's clinics, suffering from beatings, tear-gas inhalation and rubber bullet or live ammunition wounds; 24 children under 15 years of age were killed and some 1,640 were treated for beatings.

9. Other severe measures were applied in the occupied territory. They ranged from deliberate damage to property, demolition and sealing of individual shelters and houses to incarcerations on a large scale. In some cases, representations by UNRWA staff were sufficient to prevent the arrest of young children or to bring about their early release. The temporary detention of young people was used at times as a form of economic pressure since parents had to pay in order to secure their release. Innocent parties were made to suffer for suspected individuals, such as when relatives or neighbours were detained until the person sought after would turn himself or herself in.

10. The frequency of strikes and curfews varied. The latter increased in the West Bank, while in Gaza they dropped from 1,178 camp/area days between July 1988 and June 1989 to 399 camp/area days during the reporting period. In the West Bank, schools reopened in late July 1989. The Agency's vocational training centres were also allowed to open in stages between March and May 1990. Owing to selective closure orders by the authorities as well as strikes, however, school life was severely disrupted. In Tulkarm in the West Bank, for instance, Agency schools were open for only 41 out of 141 school days scheduled for the 1989/90 school year. Universities remained closed throughout the reporting period. Therefore, while the reopening of certain facilities was welcome, the situation remained unsatisfactory and the problems faced in trying to provide adequate education to 135,000 young Palestinians in the occupied territory continued to be among the major concerns of the Agency.

11. Beyond the tragic toll of lives and the physical repression, the prolongation of the conflict in the occupied territory was, in itself, causing progressive damage. The income of Palestinian families was increasingly affected by the slow-down and occasional paralysis of economic life and the detention or unemployment of breadwinners. The young people's traditional perception of education as a redeeming value in refugee life was seriously threatened. The very fabric of society showed increasing strains in an uncertain and at times contradictory political and social context. The killing of alleged collaborators and of community members who deviated from the prevailing ethical standards was a phenomenon that assumed major proportions from early 1989. During the reporting period, it is estimated that 132 such individuals were killed in the occupied territory; four of them were staff members of the Agency.

12. The situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip led to repeated calls for the protection of Palestinians. 1/ What the Agency did in extending a measure of protection through the provision of general assistance is detailed elsewhere in this report. It should be recalled here, however, that the emergency activities of the Agency reached out to the Palestinian community in general. Indeed, the Advisory Commission of the Agency, after a special session held in March 1988, urged me to provide, as far as practicable, humanitarian assistance on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure to non-refugees in the occupied territory who were in serious need because of the present situation. 2/ This is not a new feature of Agency operations, as UNRWA has on various occasions provided emergency assistance to Palestinians in some of its fields, regardless of their status. This happened, for instance, in Jordan after the 1967 hostilites; as mentioned earlier, it is the case at the moment in Lebanon. Resources permitting, the Agency will continue to pursue its emergency programme in the occupied territory, an undertaking which is intended to respond to obvious needs of the beneficiaries as well as to repeated requests from the international community.

13. Contacts with the Israeli authorities were frequent at the working and policy-making levels. In spite of the ongoing efforts to explain the circumstances and concerns of the beneficiaries and the programme requirements of the Agency, relations on the ground remained difficult. Privileges and immunities of UNRWA were increasingly disregarded. Violations of premises, such as the assault on the Rimal Health Centre in Gaza Town on 12 June 1990 in which many innocent infants and young children were injured, were strongly protested to the authorities and were condemned by the international community. Beyond those specific incidents, there were attempts by the occupying authorities to attempt gradually to assert control over Agency operations. This took the form of increasing administrative red tape, limiting the freedom of movement of staff members and interrogating them about work-related matters, enforcing new and time-consuming clearance procedures for activities that used to be carried out within the Agency's own authority and dictating the terms and duration of the school year. For the sake of its fundamental obligations to the beneficiaries, UNRWA tried pragmatically to carry on with its work while protesting specific incidents. There are, however, limits to the extent of interference that the Agency can withstand if it is to preserve its independence and international character.

14. In a constantly tense and confrontational environment, difficulties arose in ensuring that Agency premises, which given their functions are generally open to the public, were not at times also placed in jeopardy by individuals or groups from the local community. This was particularly so of Agency schools which, like

government schools, were at the centre of student unrest. Measures were taken by the Agency with a view to reducing the impact and frequency of such situations.

15. Elsewhere in the area of operations, the difficulties confronted by the largest number of refugees related to the economic situation prevailing in the host countries as well as in most other countries in the region. Skilled and semi-skilled Palestinians who had found employment outside Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic, particularly in the Gulf States, returned in increasing numbers to their families with resulting loss of income and likelihood of continued unemployment. It is probable that the growing demands on the Agency's health and welfare services in both fields were related to this economic hardship. Against this background the Agency hoped that ongoing discussions with the authorities in the Syrian Arab Republic over the implementation of its social welfare programmes there would soon lead to a mutually acceptable solution.

16. In early December 1989, demonstrations in support of the intifadah took place in some refugee camps in Jordan. Following the killing of seven Palestinian labourers in Israel on 20 May 1990 and the subsequent incidents in Israel and in the occupied territory, solidarity strikes and protests were called in Jordan, particularly in Baqa'a and Marka camps. In the ensuing clashes with security forces, four refugees were shot dead and about 400 were wounded or treated for tear-gas inhalation.

17. During the reporting period the Agency continued to operate simultaneously regular programmes and emergency activities in three of its five fields. This required complex managerial and administrative arrangements to balance the need for proper control with that of ensuring rapid and effective delivery of services. A major decrease in the contribution of the largest donor announced in November 1989 led to a last-minute review of the programmes and priorities of the 1990 budget. While most of the cuts could be re-absorbed owing to a subsequent additional contribution by the same donor, which compensated for much of the earlier reduction, this was but one further reminder of the fragility of the financial basis of UNRWA and its dependence on a limited number of donors, particularly for its regular budget. A degree of donor fatigue was also manifest in the ad hoc funding of the emergency programmes in Lebanon and the occupied territory. In 1989, it was necessary to use some $3 million from the regular budget to finance these activities. At the time of writing, some $12 million was still required in order to continue emergency programmes at the current level until the end of 1990. Furthermore, no specific expression of support or commitment had been received for the funding of any emergency activity for 1991. While this may be due in part to the very nature of an emergency programme, I was profoundly concerned by a situation which, in a matter of weeks, could result in the curtailment or discontinuance of indispensable assistance in Lebanon and in the occupied territory.

18. During the reporting period, the Secretary-General provided his unwavering support to the Agency at a time when it was particularly needed. I personally appreciated his understanding of the concerns and priorities of UNRWA and his willingness to help it in the pursuit of its mandate. The initiative undertaken by UNRWA in March 1989 to ensure greater co-operation for an effective response to the economic and social needs of Palestinians in the occupied territory continued with a second inter-agency meeting and other initiatives such as the publication of a periodic bulletin outlining the ongoing and projected activities of the organizations in the United Nations common system. I am convinced that more can be achieved in this undertaking provided all organizations strengthen their commitment

to it. Co-operation with other international organizations, particularly the International Committee of the Red Cross, was also intensified during the reporting period.

19. Until a just and lasting solution to the Palestine question is reached, UNRWA is likely to remain an important presence in the Middle East. With its 18,000 staff, it is one of the largest single employers in the region. Its well established quasi-governmental education, health and social welfare programmes benefit over 2 million people, two thirds of whom no longer live in refugee camps. Emergency activities in Lebanon and in the occupied territory confirm the capacity, within obvious financial and political constraints, to provide swift, practical responses in emergencies. At a time of continuing political stalemate, the knowledge and skills acquired in over forty years of operations are, I believe, a most useful instrument available to the international community in expressing its commitment to the Palestinian people. Support to the Agency will help it exploit to the maximum extent possible its remarkable potential.

II. GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AGENCY PROGRAMMES

A. Education

20. The education programme of UNRWA, which is run with the technical assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), provides general education, vocational and technical training, pre-service and in-service teacher training and university scholarships for higher education (see annex I, tables 5 to 7). The programme, even in relatively normal times, is beset with many difficulties, notably a lack of adequate financial resources leading to problems such as dilapidated buildings and crowded classrooms. Such difficulties were compounded during the reporting period by even more serious problems in three fields of operation.

21. After a lengthy closure ordered by the occupation authorities, schools in the West Bank were permitted to reopen in July 1989, but teaching was seriously affected by curfews, strikes and individual closure orders and the school year itself was shortened by 69 days. In addition, pupils witnessed scenes of violence, a pervasive presence of security forces, intrusion of soldiers into school compounds and classrooms involving at times the firing of ammunition, rubber bullets and tear-gas, the detention of students and teachers, the imposition of curfews keeping large families confined to miserable dwellings for indefinite periods, the wounding and killing of school friends, relatives or neighbours and the demolition of houses and other property. While the Agency strived to provide an element of stability and normality in the lives of students, it is easy to appreciate that this could have only a limited effect in ensuring that they not only develop their intellectual and social skills, but also that there is no psychological damage over the longer term.

22. The situation of the education programme in Lebanon was also difficult. Schools continued to operate in the context of chronic instability, which caused frequent forced movements of population and prolonged local school closures. Damaged schools, transfers of pupils and outbreaks of fighting provided a poor background for learning, and again parents were left with uncertainty as to what the long-term effects would be on their children.

23. As to the education programme itself, the Agency's tight budgetary situation continued to leave little room for major new initiatives. This resulted in the programme being essentially of an ongoing nature, catering to an increasing school population, with new undertakings being in the nature of necessary reactions to external factors or ad hoc improvements facilitated by extrabudgetary donations. One such external factor was the high level of disruption of school operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. To reduce the impact of this situation, UNRWA developed - and hopes to develop further if funding is obtained - alternative approaches to education, including written self-learning materials and video programmes. Such self-learning materials covered the basic subject areas of the school curriculum.

24. Another external factor affecting the education programme was the introduction of significant reforms in Jordan, namely, the extension of the general education cycle from 9 to 10 years and the requirement that all teachers in elementary and preparatory cycles possess a first university degree in order to obtain the education profession licence. As mentioned in last year's report, UNRWA welcomes

these but remains most concerned at the substantial increase in expenditure that would be required to adapt to the new system. The potential financial implications, ranging from the employment of new staff and construction of additional classrooms to the upgrading of the qualifications of existing teachers, became more serious during the reporting period with the decision of the Israeli education authorities to introduce the tenth year to the West Bank.

25. Funds for the construction required to prevent triple shifting in some schools, the replacement of unsuitable rented premises and dilapidated schools and sanitary facilities were not included in the Agency's regular budget. During the reporting period, virtually all such construction was therefore dependent on ad hoc contributions from Governments, regional agencies, non-governmental organizations and private individuals. While UNRWA was grateful for the assistance received, it did not suffice to meet the most urgent requirements within a reasonable period of time.

26. The Agency's eight vocational, technical and teacher-training centres train 5,000 refugee students in 45 courses. The programmes have produced more than 52,000 graduates over the years and have an annual output capacity of 2,500 graduates. Many of these graduates, in addition to becoming self-sufficient and helping their families, have contributed their skills to various countries in the region. In the case of vocational and technical training, a survey is carried out every two to three years to assess the demand for skills in the host and neighbouring countries and to adjust courses accordingly. At the end of the reporting period, UNRWA was in the process of introducing new courses, particularly for skills at the semi-professional level, and upgrading and re-equipping existing courses. The university scholarship programme received a boost during the year when two Governments provided contributions to be spread over five years for the provision of about 100 additional scholarships.

27. The Agency follows the curricula of host countries. Specialist staff, however, are continually engaged in devising enrichment material to supplement them. During the year, the Department of Education carried out a programme of in-service training for more than 840 teachers and education staff of various categories, including 111 vocational training instructors whose qualifications were upgraded. The syllabuses for more than 40 courses operating at the training centres were updated while new teachers' guides were produced.

B. Health

28. The Agency's health programme, which is essentially community-based, provides primary health care in the form of medical care services, health protection and promotion services, environmental health services in camps, and nutrition and supplementary feeding to vulnerable population groups. Its prime objective is to meet the basic health needs of the refugee population in accordance with the humanitarian policies of the United Nations and the basic principles of the World Health Organization (WHO).

29. During the reporting period, morbidity from infectious diseases continued to decrease despite the unsatisfactory environmental conditions prevailing in most refugee camps (see annex I, table 10). With the exception of limited outbreaks of measles among susceptible children, which are not unexpected among highly immunized populations, no epidemics of communicable diseases preventable by immunization

occurred in the area of operations. Studies on infant mortality in camps revealed rates ranging between 25 and 35 per 1,000 live births. The main causes of infant deaths continued to be respiratory infections, low birth weight and prematurity, congenital malformations and gastro-enteritis. The prevalence of malnutrition among refugee children remained low despite deteriorating economic and social circumstances in most fields. Children showing growth failure were assisted individually with a view to identifying underlying causes and providing appropriate case management.

30. Events in the occupied territory created a high demand for emergency and casualty care. In April and May 1989, a team of WHO consultants carried out an assessment of needs in respect of emergency medical care in the UNRWA clinics and non-governmental hospitals in the West Bank and Gaza. Based on their recommendations, UNRWA took steps, described in paragraphs 87 and 100 of this report, to upgrade the emergency capacity of its health care system at the primary level. The implementation of these measures was assessed by another consultant who visited all health centres, emergency and night duty clinics in Gaza and West Bank in April 1990. The findings testified to improvements in the quality and magnitude of the management of casualties in health centres and stabilization of conditions requiring referral to hospital for urgent surgical intervention and resuscitation, thus providing life saving services to a large number of injured persons.

31. During 1989, there was a 9 per cent increase over 1988 in the number of medical consultations Agency-wide (annex I, table 9). This was due to the deterioration of economic conditions and the ever-increasing cost of medical care, especially that provided at government and private hospitals, and required additional resources beyond the capability of the Agency. This increase could have been greater had not access to UNRWA clinics been limited by restrictions on the movement of people in the occupied territory.

32. During the reporting period, several key problems and issues were addressed at workshops organized by the Agency. The psychological health problems among groups at risk received greater recognition and attention at a workshop on mental health, organized by UNRWA and WHO, held at the Amman Training Centre in July 1989. Subsequently, a plan for a multidisciplinary programme for the prevention and management of mental health problems among children was developed as a basis for further consultations. The problems of overcrowded health centres and quality of patient care were discussed at two workshops on patient flow analysis which were attended by senior health staff. The objective was to reduce patients' waiting time and provide more efficient service in the health centres. Transfer of the technology and methodology of this operational research activity to all fields was due to be completed in 1990, and the appropriate adjustments and reforms to the clinic service will be introduced in 1991.

33. The coverage and quality of maternal health services, particularly to women at high risk, continued to be a priority and in September 1989 a project formulation workshop was arranged in Jerusalem, co-sponsored by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNRWA, in order to develop an expanded maternal health programme for Gaza and the West Bank. Finally, the changing pattern of morbidity among refugees and the need to introduce programmes for the control of non-communicable diseases were the focus of new planning efforts. A workshop held in Jordan in February 1990, in collaboration with experts from the University of Zagreb in Yugoslavia, developed an appropriate strategy for the control of diabetes mellitus. At the time of writing this report, recommendations for action were

being implemented to upgrade the level of service in the 53 diabetic clinics run by UNRWA, as well as to expand such special care clinics where needed.

34. During the reporting period there was no material evidence that human immunodeficiency (HIV) virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) infections represented a major problem among the refugee population. Nevertheless, UNRWA had to keep pace with the global strategy for prevention of this pandemic. A short-term plan of action for HIV/AIDS prevention and control in all fields was prepared in collaboration with WHO. Over $200,000 was contributed by WHO to implement this plan, giving priority to epidemiological surveillance, staff training and blood safety measures.

35. In May 1990, the Agency conducted a nutrition survey in collaboration with a team of consultants from WHO and the Centers for Disease Control of Atlanta, United States, to assess the nutritional status of defined groups of mothers and children and to compare results with those of a similar survey conducted in 1984. The preliminary analysis of survey data revealed that there was very little difference in weight between the refugee children and the reference child population and that the prevalence of underheight children - so called "stunting" - had decreased by as much as a half between 1984 and 1990 in the three fields where comparison of the results of the 1984 and 1990 surveys was possible, namely Jordan, Gaza and West Bank. There remained however one substantial nutritional problem. The survey, which was carried out on large samples of children and non-pregnant and pregnant women, confirmed what previous studies had shown, that there was a high prevalence of iron-deficiency anaemia in children under three years of age, that the degree of anaemia could be characterized as mild or moderate but not severe and immediately life-threatening, and that there was no sign that this iron-deficiency anaemia prevalence was declining.

36. On the basis of the nutritional survey and the regular surveillance system maintained by the Agency at its clinics, the following policy decisions were made. The cost-ineffective midday meal programme would be terminated in January 1991. A food supplement, in the form of dry rations for children who were regular attenders of the programme, will be issued for a transitional period of three years in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic and as long as the emergency continues in Gaza, West Bank and Lebanon. Coupled with these measures, an appropriate strategy for prophylaxis and treatment of anaemia among at-risk groups will be introduced and a programme of thorough medical investigation and treatment of children showing signs of growth retardation will be simultaneously implemented. Other components of the supplementary feeding programmes, namely, milk to children aged 6 to 36 months and dry rations to pregnant and nursing mothers, will be maintained.

37. The environmental health conditions in many refugee camps leave much to be desired in terms of basic infrastructure. In the West Bank and Lebanon, only 22 per cent of the camp population is served by underground sewerage systems; in Gaza the figure is as low as 6 per cent. UNRWA is attempting to integrate camp water supply and waste disposal networks within the municipal or regional systems. Some progress was achieved in improving liquid waste disposal and general sanitation, particularly in Gaza, West Bank and Lebanon.

C. Relief and social services

38. Heavy demands were placed upon the Agency's relief and social services during the period under review. In addition to the regular programmes of assistance, the situations prevailing in Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza demanded emergency relief measures described in paragraphs 67, 68, 69 and 101 of this report. Even in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic, the economic support network of extended families was weakened by rising unemployment and the declining purchasing power of incomes. Applications from households that could no longer count on contributions from relatives continued to grow for admission to the Agency's special hardship programme. Over and above this provision of much-needed direct relief, however, the Agency was also looking to a longer-term approach through which the Palestinian community would gradually strengthen its own capabilities.

39. The special hardship programme is extended to households in which there is no male adult present who is medically fit to earn a living and which have no other identified source of finances adequate to meet basic needs. The Agency's financial means, however, necessitate a budgetary ceiling on the foodstuffs and other material aid supplied each year. Applications are therefore processed conservatively within rates based on available resources. By the end of June 1990, the number of refugees registered as special hardship cases had reached 151,860 or 7.8 per cent of the refugees eligible for services. This percentage varied from 3.7 per cent in Jordan to 13.8 per cent in Lebanon. This situation compared with 141,840 cases at the end of June 1989, or 7.2 per cent of the refugee population at that time. A quarter of the cases were elderly persons without support from children, who would almost certainly need assistance for the remainder of their lives. In many of the other families, however, there were frequently members through whom a longer-term solution could be achieved, and it was to them that the Agency's more developmental social services were principally directed.

40. Income-generation and related training were among the main components of the social services. Those receiving special hardship assistance were targeted together with others from poorer families and small entrepreneurs who did not have access to commercial credit facilities. Demands to facilitate economic self-reliance have grown in recent years, especially in the occupied territory and Lebanon where many jobs have been lost. During the reporting period, the demand considerably exceeded the funding which the Agency and its principal non-governmental partner in this endeavour were able to raise. By the summer of 1990, the joint programme had made loans averaging $7,700 to 167 enterprises in the West Bank and Gaza, carefully selected for potential economic viability in sectors shown by feasibility studies to have good markets - a total investment of almost $1.3 million. Other enterprises in the occupied territory would receive funding when capital became available, as they would in Jordan where the programme was initiated in the summer of 1989. On average, each project directly employed three persons. In 14 projects, the recipient of the loan was a woman, and women accounted for a quarter of the persons employed. Additionally, grants for smaller-scale enterprises were made to the families of the most needy to help bring them out of the welfare net, where appropriate potential could be identified. By the end of June 1990, 327 such projects had received grants and were in business Agency-wide.

41. Women refugees headed almost half of the households receiving special hardship assistance and carried heavy responsibilities in those where husbands were

invalided, disabled or imprisoned. A triple objective was identified by the Agency: to enable more women to acquire the skills and opportunity to earn a living; to help them cope better with family and social problems; and to facilitate their role in the development of their community. The focal points for this endeavour were the multipurpose women's programme centres that the Agency had established or was setting up in refugee camps and other centres of refugee population. During the reporting period, funds were received for three new centres, a fourth was completed, another was well under way and a sixth had made good progress when work was halted by the Israeli authorities for alleged security reasons. Additionally, in all five fields buildings no longer required for their original purpose or which were inadequate were renovated, extended and better equipped. The range of activities in the centres increased, with the women themselves often identifying their own training requirements and paying small fees for teachers and equipment.

42. At the end of the reporting period, a major donor announced its intention to establish a grant for a Palestinian women's initiative fund and for the training of staff and beneficiaries to develop projects to be financed from it. These projects would move away from the traditional embroidery and sewing schemes, which, while still very popular, have a limited market. The women's programme centres were also used for health education, literacy classes and learning in early childhood development and as places where women could be freely consulted on community needs and involved in initiatives to improve community facilities. Several centres adjoined kindergartens run by non-governmental organizations in association with UNRWA, an arrangement the Agency was keen to develop.

43. The third major component of the social services was support for the physically and mentally disabled and their families, in association with local communities and non-governmental organizations. The underlying objective was community-based rehabilitation, from childhood through adulthood. In addition to the 1.3 per cent or more of the refugees who were born with disabilities, some of those injured in Lebanon or in the occupied territory had serious or residual handicaps that demanded not only medical intervention but also vocational rehabilitation and socio-economic support. UNRWA pioneered community centres for the disabled in the refugee camps in Jordan, where they number five, and over the reporting period initiated the extension of that programme to the other fields. At the time of writing, surveys were being conducted in selected communities using local volunteers and Agency staff.

44. Ideally, the refugee community itself - which provided the volunteer workers for the centres and undertook some fund-raising - should take over the full responsibility for the centres. While this was encouraged, in the economic and political circumstances of the region it was clear that outside contributions would continue to be required for a long time. The Agency's role was essentially to mobilize, to facilitate and to give technical and administrative support, frequently in old premises that were renovated and adapted. It was also to link the camp centre with local institutes that could provide more specialized facilities and expertise. These were developing in several areas, and for the forthcoming school year the Agency will be able to reduce significantly the numbers of young children who in the past would have been sent to institutes away from their families. Where a disability was not severe, perhaps the most valuable help UNRWA could give was to enable handicapped refugees to take advantage of mainstream

education and training facilities. Ways of accomplishing this were being studied by programme staff as well as technical personnel who would design or modify health, education and social service installations so as to facilitate access to them by the disabled.

III. JORDAN

A. Education

45. In Jordan, the operation of the 197 UNRWA schools with a total of 133,810 pupils was normal throughout the 1989/90 school year. During the reporting period, an elementary girls school that included 22 classrooms and specialized rooms was constructed at Baqa'a to replace dilapidated prefabricated premises that were housing 2,080 pupils. Four other school premises were under construction: at Wadi Seer, Baga'a and Waqqas in the north Jordan valley to replace unsatisfactory rented premises, and at Jarash to replace prefabricated premises.

46. As indicated in the last report, Jordan increased the preparatory cycle by one year starting from the 1989/90 school year, thus extending compulsory education to 10 years. This extension has considerable implications for UNRWA, as it has been the Agency's practice to provide equivalent education services to those of the host country. The Government kindly offered to accommodate in its schools the ninth-grade leavers from UNRWA schools for the initial three years of operating the new system. At its meeting in August 1989, the Advisory Commission urged UNRWA to take the necessary steps to ensure that, after the expiration of the transitional period, those refugee children provided for by UNRWA in Jordan would continue their studies for a tenth year. The Agency was seeking the substantial additional financial resources necessary to do so and to satisfy a related requirement that all teachers must possess a first university degree.

47. The Amman and Wadi Seer Training Centres, which operated successfully during the year, trained a total of 1,168 students in 27 vocational and technical courses. The Amman Centre, in addition to teacher training, provided courses in the paramedical and commercial areas. The Wadi Seer Centre provided courses in the mechanical, electrical and building trades as well as a range of technician courses. In the general comprehensive examination held in the summer of 1989 for community colleges in Jordan, the students of the two Centres achieved outstanding results, with success rates of 98 and 92 per cent respectively. At the Amman Training Centre, 300 training places were provided for teacher-trainees who also achieved very good results in the 1989 State examinations.

B. Health

48. The health facilities in Jordan, serving about 850,000 Palestine refugees, ran uninterruptedly during the period covered by this report. They included 18 health centres and points, 14 dental clinics, 10 laboratories, 8 specialist clinics, 12 diabetes clinics and 5 hypertension clinics.

49. In-patient care was provided by subsidizing 40 beds in private hospitals, equivalent to a rate of 0.05 beds per 1,000 population. This modest measure was complemented by a scheme for reimbursement of expenses incurred on treatment of emergency medical conditions. To improve this situation the Agency was considering increasing the rates of reimbursement according to the socio-economic status of different categories of beneficiaries, giving priority and a higher level of reimbursement to special hardship cases.

50. The newly constructed health centre in Jarash camp, funded by a special contribution, began operating in August 1989. The construction of a mother and child health sub-centre in Amman New Camp was expected to be completed in August 1990. Building of a similar sub-centre at Jabal Nuzha in Amman would start as soon as a building permit was issued by the municipality. The Agency allocated funds for the construction of new health centres at Amman New Camp and Suf camp and for the extension of Jabal el-Hussein and Husn health centres. Tenders were opened in April 1990 for the construction of a health training centre in Amman which will serve as a focal training centre Agency-wide.

51. A total of 66,000 square metres of pathways were paved in Baqa'a, Zarqa, Marka, Husn and Suf camps under self-help camp improvement projects. Underground sewerage networks with sewage treatment facilities were completed by the Government at Zarqa and Baqa'a camps and the sewerage scheme in Irbid camp was progressing. UNRWA installations and shelters of special hardship cases were connected to these networks. Thus far, more than 77 per cent of the camp population in Jordan has had its shelters connected to the sewerage schemes.

C. Relief and social services

52. The socio-economic circumstances of refugees in Jordan were relatively stable and on average more comfortable than elsewhere. Nevertheless, the demand for material aid from those living in poverty continued to grow and was affected over the past year by a rise in unemployment and by the Agency's initiative in surveying the needs of refugees living in the Aqaba area for whom few services were available. At the end of June 1990, the number of persons in families registered as special hardship cases had reached 30,687, or 3.7 per cent of the eligible population. Many of them lived in shelters that did not meet minimal health standards, and 109 families received assistance with repair or reconstruction.

53. By the end of June 1990, 109 previously destitute families were running small income-generating enterprises from their homes with the help of self-support grants and technical follow-up. In June 1989, project development officers were appointed for a revolving loan programme, and studies were subsequently carried out of business sectors offering opportunities, concessional credit schemes and the feasibility of specific projects. Several proposals were fully developed, including a toy-making workshop that would employ women in Jabal el-Hussein and two enterprises that would primarily provide work for physically handicapped refugees.

54. The women's programmes expanded over the year and were run from 10 women's programme centres, with an eleventh in the planning stages. Four centres moved into new or renovated premises and equipment was upgraded. Courses were conducted in dressmaking, machine-knitting, artificial flower-making, hairdressing and typing. A wool spinning project was initiated in the spring of 1990, with UNRWA providing the premises and co-ordination and a non-governmental organization the training and equipment.

55. The programme of community-based rehabilitation of the disabled also developed further in Jordan at the four established centres at Suf, Baqa'a, Husn and Jarash. A new unit for the deaf was opened at Husn and an activities centre was opened at Baqa'a. Among the achievements of the programme over the year, especially satisfying was the success of seven cerebrally-palsied children who became able to walk without support. Six disabled young women who had undergone rehabilitation

were enrolled in skill-training courses alongside other women at the women's programme centres. Important to this process is change in the attitude of the community towards the disabled, from one of fear and shame to one of acceptance and pride. There was considerable progress here, and it will be assisted by the far-reaching law on behalf of the disabled adopted by the Jordanian Government at the beginning of 1990.

IV. LEBANON

A. Education

56. During the 1989/90 school year, the 76 UNRWA schools in Lebanon had 33,300 pupils. The 20 schools in the central Lebanon area, which had been closed for security reasons since mid-March 1989, were unable to reopen before the summer vacation and in fact did not commence operation again until October. The two following months were spent on completing the 1988/89 school year before beginning the 1989/90 year. The remaining schools commenced the 1989/90 school year as scheduled on 18 September. Apart from occasional interruptions due to strikes, schools in Lebanon generally operated normally except during February 1990 when the schools in central Lebanon were again closed for security reasons. At reporting time, it was hoped to complete the 1989/90 school year in those schools in August 1990. One new school for 3,000 pupils, containing 33 classrooms as well as specialized rooms, was under construction at Ein el-Hilweh to replace old dilapidated premises.

57. The Siblin Training Centre provided a total of 640 training places in the 1989/90 academic year, covering a total of 18 vocational and technical courses. The actual number of students at the start of the year was 607 of whom 382 were boarders. The Centre continued to operate throughout the reporting period with only relatively minor interruptions related to the commemoration of anniversaries and local strikes. Although the Centre was given considerable financial support in 1987 for re-equipping courses following a three-year closure, there remained a need for a considerable amount of equipment, renovation and construction. A sum of $250,000 was allocated for equipment for the instrument mechanic, electronics and business and office practice courses.

B. Health

58. Despite the prevailing conditions in Lebanon, some of the Agency's health programmes were improved. Services were disrupted, however, in certain areas when heavy rounds of fighting or shelling prevented access of staff and refugees to health centres.

59. Four additional diabetes clinics and two hypertension clinics were established, bringing the total number of specialized clinics to 11. In addition, a cardiac clinic, run by a specialist contracted to UNRWA, was also established. The health centre at Shatila camp was reconstructed, major renovation of Rashidieh health centre completed and a clinical laboratory was operated at Ein el-Hilweh health centre. Three additional dental units were installed at Wavel, Saida Town and Rashidieh health centres and maternal and child health services were extended to three villages served by a mobile team.

60. Although the cost of hospital services continued to increase, it was nevertheless possible to keep expenditure within the budget ceiling by applying strict control on referrals, redeploying beds according to need and reducing a corresponding number of contracted beds in private hospitals.

61. Daily operation of refuse collection and disposal in refugee camps was carried out and safe water supply was ensured through installation of chlorinators in

co-ordination with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In Ein el-Hilweh camp, 1,500 metres of dilapidated sewers were replaced and the sewers in the north-east part of the camp were connected to the nearby municipal sewerage scheme. Sanitation infrastructures in Shatila and Burj el-Barajneh camps, which were destroyed during the "camps war" in 1986-1987, were reconstructed and the water network in one sector of Beddawi camp was renovated.

C. Relief and social services

62. The need for material assistance for the destitute continued to be higher in Lebanon than in any other field. By the end of June 1990, 35,350 persons were registered as special hardship cases, amounting to 13.8 per cent of the refugees eligible for services, compared with 31,720 at the same time last year. Delivery of assistance was frequently disrupted by localized fighting. In east Beirut, heavy fighting not only necessitated emergency aid described later in this report, but for several months during the reporting period it meant that many special hardship families were unable to collect their food rations. Of special concern were the families displaced often on several occasions over the past 15 years and who were living in unacceptable conditions. In June 1990, a gathering of representatives of UNRWA, UNICEF and a number of concerned local and international non-governmental organizations drew up proposals for a co-ordinated programme of assistance.

63. In view of the damage done to the economic infrastructure of Lebanon and the frequent exclusion of Palestinians from employment opportunities, efforts to establish income-generating schemes became important. Among the special hardship cases, the Agency supported 93 small enterprises, 5 of which, in the Tyre area, reached a level of sustained income during the year sufficient for the family to be taken off the welfare rolls. UNRWA programmes that could offer work to refugee enterprises did so, as with the production of doors and windows for the rehabilitation of refugee shelters in Shatila camp.

64. Many of those seeking paid work were women, who became increasingly responsible for the support of their families. Women trained at the women's programme centres were directed to organizations running small workshops or co-ordinating cottage industries. Courses in dressmaking, artificial flower-making and hairdressing were offered at five women's programme centres, and funds were made available for a sixth centre which it was hoped would be constructed later in 1990 in Burj el-Shemali. Married women were encouraged to participate by the provision of crêches and the siting of centres close to pre-school facilities run by non-governmental organizations in association with UNRWA.

65. Another problematic legacy of 15 years of conflict was the large number of disabled children and adults. Nahr el-Bared camp was provisionally the location of the first community-based rehabilitation centre to be established by the Agency in Lebanon, provided that non-governmental partners and the local community could be mobilized.

D. Emergency operations and reconstruction

66. While for most of the reporting period the Palestinian community was not directly involved in the conflicts in Lebanon, the refugees were inevitably

affected by the turmoil and the continuing economic difficulties. As the locus of the violence shifted, many refugees fled from one place to another. The Agency's emergency operation was directed especially to alleviating the plight of these displaced refugees and to others who had been most affected by the violence. Once again, the Agency extended assistance to non-registered Palestinians and occasionally to Lebanese who had been displaced by the hostilities. In addition, emergency health assistance and supplementary feeding, at estimated annual costs of $80,000 and $90,000 respectively, were extended to refugees not normally eligible for such services.

67. The 1990 budget for emergency operations in Lebanon amounted to $10 million, of which around $2 million was being spent on food aid. Four emergency general ration distributions of food, sugar and rice to approximately 230,000 beneficiaries were carried out during the reporting period. Emergency funds also went into the distribution of relief supplies, water, clothing, mattresses, blankets and kitchen kits as well as medical treatment and hospitalization. Cash grants were given to refugees to help them repair their shelters and a cash assistance programme was introduced.

68. The shelter repair programme to assist refugees whose shelters had been damaged or destroyed continued. By the end of the reporting period, 1,265 shelters had been repaired or reconstructed in Burj el-Barajneh. In Shatila, the programme slowed along with the pace of the return of the refugees to the camp but by the end of June 1990, 463 shelters had been repaired or reconstructed and a total of 1,766 windows and doors had been installed.

69. In February, Dbayeh camp near Jounieh, which had been virtually unscathed in 15 years of civil war, was caught in shell cross-fire and around 20 per cent of shelters were damaged or destroyed. Within three days, UNRWA carried out an initial inspection and took in 16 tons of flour. Additional supplies, including blankets, clothing, food and cash, were quickly made available. At around the same time, potable water became scarce in west Beirut. All five of the Agency's available water tankers supplied water to UNRWA installations as well as to the Lebanese populations adjoining the refugee camps.

V. SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

A. Education

70. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 111 UNRWA schools with a student population of 55,550 were open without interruption in 1989/90. Although 90 per cent of the schools had the disadvantage of operating on a double-shift basis, the pupils had once again a much higher success rate in the State examinations than pupils of other schools.

71. The problem of inadequate and insufficient school premises remained chronic. Many schools were housed in dilapidated rented premises and the available sanitary facilities presented health hazards in many cases. The Agency continued to experience difficulty in securing sufficient funds to carry out a sustained programme of construction at the desired speed. Owing to an improved exchange rate available to UNRWA and the savings resulting therefrom, however, $2 million were allocated to a number of projects, including construction of a school to replace rented accommodation, renovation of sanitary facilities at 15 schools and construction of nine classrooms to avoid triple-shifting. During the reporting period one new school building for 910 pupils, containing 10 classrooms and specialized rooms, was completed. This building, in the Yarmouk refugee quarter of Damascus, made it possible to avoid triple-shifting.

72. In the 1989/90 academic year, the Damascus Training Centre operated without interruption. In July 1989, 404 trainees graduated from the Centre, which provided a total of 768 training places covering a total of 19 vocational and technical courses. Some badly needed renovation was completed at the Centre but considerable funding was still required to carry out further essential updating and replacement of equipment.

B. Health

73. The construction of a health and feeding centre at Hama and the extension of the Yarmouk health centre to accommodate the central laboratory were completed during the reporting period. Work started for construction of a health centre in Latakia and a maternal and child health sub-centre in Yarmouk. To meet the increasing demand on out-patient services in the south area following construction of a new health centre there, an additional medical team was established to operate Dera'a and Mazereeb health centres on a full-time rather than part-time basis.

74. Private hospitals, where UNRWA reserved 55 beds for in-patient care to eligible refugees, requested substantial increases in subsidy rates far exceeding the allotted budget. The Agency was forced to exercise closer control on hospitalization services in order to maintain the expenditure within the budget ceiling, without affecting essential services to refugees.

75. UNICEF completed the water augmentation project in Qabr Essit camp and handed it over to the concerned government establishment to operate. It also drilled a water well in Khan Dannoun camp and started a project for replacement of the internal sewerage network in that camp as well as in Jaramana camp. UNRWA funded and implemented a water supply project for its installations in Homs camp and continued to provide water to Damascus camps through its water tankers because of

the low ground-water level in camp wells. Garbage collection and disposal was mechanized in Khan Dannoun and Khan Eshieh camps in the Damascus area, by provision of a compactor truck and matching containers.

C. Relief and social services

76. As in the other fields, the number of refugee families applying for admission to the programme of special hardship assistance grew, primarily because of the increase in unemployment in the Syrian Arab Republic itself and the fall in job opportunities for Palestinians elsewhere in the Arab world. Unfortunately, the dialogue between the Agency and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic on arrangements for UNRWA social workers to visit refugees in their homes still failed to result in a mutually satisfactory agreement. It was hoped that a modus operandi could soon be reached, at which time the material assistance to the special hardship cases could be increased above the level at which it was frozen in July 1989. Lists were compiled of those families requesting help with the rehabilitation of their shelters, and this programme could also resume as soon as the shelters could be inspected and technical decisions taken on the work needed. At the end of the reporting period, persons in the families receiving assistance numbered 14,454, representing 6 per cent of the refugee population eligible for services.

77. On home visits hinges much of the Agency's ability to deliver social services of improved quality and enlarged scope. A number of families, for instance, applied for help in starting up small enterprises from their homes, a programme suspended at the Government's request in February 1989. To be successful this programme requires, inter alia, a joint study by the social worker and the family of the feasibility of the proposed enterprise and determination of the input needed from the Agency.

78. At the time of writing this report UNRWA supported 32 disabled youngsters in institutionalized programmes, but such support was minimal compared with the level of need. Two workshops were held over the year to train social workers in the nature and objectives of a community-based approach and in the techniques of conducting house-to-house studies to identify the disabled, who are typically confined to their homes. It was hoped shortly to open a community centre for the disabled in Neirab camp.

79. One of the most heartening developments over the period under review was the approach to the Agency by a group of women in Neirab camp seeking help to enable six disabled young women to learn a skill that would allow them to contribute to family income. This was only one of several refugee initiatives in this camp, where another group of women developed a proposal for an income-generating project to produce garments for local retail outlets. They will be helped with a grant to start up the business. Elsewhere, courses in dressmaking, machine-knitting and hairdressing were offered at the women's programme centres, and plans were developed to expand the programme and improve facilities.

VI. OCCUPIED TERRITORY

A. Education

80. Of the 98 UNRWA schools in the West Bank with a total pupil population of 39,460, 90 schools with 36,700 pupils suffered severe disruption during the reporting period. The 90 schools, which had been closed by Israeli military order since January 1989, were allowed to reopen on 22 July in the case of elementary schools and 2 August in the case of preparatory schools. Attempts to complete the 1988/89 academic year were hampered by curfews, strikes and individual military closure orders until 13 November when schools were again ordered closed until 10 January 1990. This brought the school year to an end with the prescribed education curriculum uncompleted. Following reopening in January for the school year 1989/90, the schools operated for the remainder of the reporting period subject again to various disruptions. They were scheduled to complete the year on 2 July 1990 with a reduction of 33 per cent from the normal duration of the school year and an average lost time of 15 to 20 per cent. Some schools lost more than 50 per cent of the already reduced school year. The remaining eight schools in the West Bank, located within the Jerusalem city limits with a total population of 2,760 pupils, were more fortunate. They reopened in September 1989 after the summer vacation and functioned with little interruption during the reporting period. Two new school premises, one containing 13 classrooms and the other 9 classrooms plus specialized rooms, were under construction. The schools, at Sur Baher for 610 pupils and at Arrabeh for 320 pupils, will replace unsuitable rented premises.

81. The Agency, conscious of how seriously its school programme in the West Bank had been affected and of the danger of long-term effects on the education of Palestinian children, continued to develop further the alternative approaches to education that had been initiated in the previous year. The emphasis was on the production of self-learning written materials for distribution to individual pupils. Such materials, apart from their obvious usefulness when schools were closed, also provided useful supplementary assistance to pupils who were back at school but had missed so much schooling in the recent past. Another alternative method being pursued during the reporting period was the development of audio-visual materials. This approach was necessarily more long term, requiring specialized equipment and the development of a wide range of expertise. The primary aim was to produce video cassettes for the various school levels and for vocational and technical training.

82. The three training centres in the West Bank, two of which are in Ramallah and the other in Kalandia, provided 944 vocational and technical training places and 550 teacher-training places. These centres were seriously affected, as they were closed by military order for more than two years from the beginning of 1988 until the spring of 1990. Eventually permitted to reopen in stages between 10 March and 1 May 1990, the centres operated thereafter until the end of the reporting period with occasional disruption caused by strikes, curfews and disturbances. Attendance at all three centres suffered when compared to enrolment before the lengthy period of enforced closure. At the Kalandia Training Centre, for example, 212 trainees were in attendance, while 217 of their colleagues did not re-enrol. Some were known to be in detention, some studying abroad, some had found jobs and there were others about whom the Agency had no information. Efforts were being made to recruit new trainees to fill the vacant places. Construction at the three training

centres during the reporting period included a gymnasium at the Ramallah Men's Training Centre, expansion of the library and the installation of central heating at Ramallah Women's Training Centre and the renovation of some workshops and dormitories at Kalandia Training Centre.

83. During the 1989/90 school year, the 149 UNRWA schools in Gaza had 95,600 pupils. When they reopened after the summer vacation in September 1989, a short initial period saw the implementation of a contingency plan intended to cover essential topics of the 1988/89 curriculum that had not been completed prior to the vacation owing to the loss of teaching time.

84. There was no prolonged general closure of schools in Gaza during the academic year 1989/90. Nevertheless, curfews, disturbances, strikes and, in the case of some schools, individual closure orders that varied from one week to three months, caused frequent interruptions. By mid-May 1990, 40 per cent of teaching time had been lost. The occupation authorities refused to allow the Agency to extend the school year, and contingency plans, including the distribution of self-learning materials to the pupils, had to be put into effect. As the occupation authorities also refused to allow UNRWA to reopen schools one month early after a shortened summer vacation to compensate for time lost in 1989/90, it was proposed to use the first few weeks of the 1990/91 school year for this purpose. During the reporting period, construction of a total of 22 classrooms to avoid triple-shift operations and an additional 26 classrooms to replace existing dilapidated structures were completed.

85. The Gaza Training Centre in 1989/90 had 650 training places and offered a total of 15 vocational and technical courses. The Centre's opening after the summer vacation was delayed by the occupation authorities until 2 October 1989. From that time onwards, it operated with general regularity throughout the academic year although, inevitably, it was affected by strikes, curfews and closure orders. The opening ceremony for two new semi-professional courses in physiotherapy and business and office practice took place on 15 February. When fully operative, the courses would provide training for 88 male and female trainees. This marked the introduction of semi-professional training at the Centre and provided opportunities for female trainees to enrol for the first time.

B. Health

86. The continuation of the intifadah and the countermeasures employed by the Israeli security forces continued to have serious effects upon UNRWA health services in the occupied territory during the period under review. The Agency had to give priority to emergency and casualty care, while at the same time maintaining its regular health activities in all areas, in spite of interruptions caused by curfews, strikes and disturbances.

87. In health centres, emergency medical kits and surgical equipment were provided and staff members received special training. The value of these improvements was clearly illustrated on many occasions, most notably on 20 May 1990 when fierce confrontations erupted throughout the occupied territory following the killing of Palestinian workers at Rishon Lezion in Israel. On this occasion, UNRWA medical staff treated literally hundreds of people and resuscitated the most severely injured prior to their evacuation to hospitals.

88. The joint UNRWA-UNICEF physiotherapy programme continued to function in five health centres in the Gaza Strip and was extended to the West Bank where clinics were opened in Jenin and Doura in April 1990. In addition, physiotherapy clinics were in operation in Qalqiliya hospital and Balata and Tulkarm health centres. UNRWA doctors and nurses received practical training in casualty care and first aid at Makassed hospital in East Jerusalem and all practical nurses attended a two-month training course in physiotherapy at the Princess Basma Crippled Children Rehabiliation Centre.

89. The Agency continued to provide assistance to hospitals run by non-governmental organizations. In order to cope with the increased number of referred patients and casualties, UNRWA contributed towards the expansion of Al Ahli hospital in Gaza, where it already subsidized 40 beds. Improvements included a children's ward, an additional operating theatre and provision of equipment for an intensive care unit. Progress was also made towards the construction and equipment of a 20-bed orthopaedic ward. In West Bank, equipment was provided to Augusta Victoria hospital for the newly established neonatal ward and to five other establishments to which refugee patients were referred.

90. The new surgical ward at the hospital operated by UNRWA in Qalqiliya was put into use following the appointment of a surgeon, a gynaecologist, an anesthesiologist and 11 practical nurses. Renovation and upgrading was completed at Arrub, Kalandia and Jenin health centres and the establishment of X-ray and laboratory services at Balata, Hebron and Far'a health centres was underway, as were projects for the construction of new health centres in Fawwar, Deir Ammar and Doura and a central pharmacy in Jerusalem. In Gaza, where most health centre buildings require replacement or major renovation, the new Gaza Town health centre, serving a population of 40,000, was inaugurated in November 1989. Designs were prepared for the construction of three new health centres at Beach camp, Beit Hanoun and Tel el-Sultan, two maternal and child health sub-centres at Khuza'a and Nuseirat, reconstruction of Deir el-Balah health centre and the installation of radiological units at Nuseirat and Rafah health centres. The award of contracts, however, awaited the issue of building permits by the Civil Administration. Funds were also alloted and designs completed for construction of a new field pharmacy to replace the existing premises, which were beyond repair. Finally, UNRWA carried out, in collaboration with WHO, a feasibility study with a design brief and development plan to construct, equip and commission a 200-bed general hospital in Gaza. The project was estimated to cost $35 million, of which $20 million represented capital costs and $15 million running costs for three years. Subsequently, a detailed project proposal was developed and fund-raising activities started, which led to some encouraging preliminary responses.

91. In the area of environmental health, work on the internal sewerage scheme at Amari camp was completed. The first phase of a similar scheme at Dheisheh Camp, however, proceeded slowly owing to obstacles created by the Israeli security forces. The ultimate objective was to connect the internal sewerage scheme to the regional scheme of Bethlehem municipality, comprising Dheisheh, Aida and Beit Jibrin camps. Funds were also allocated to implement internal sewerage systems at Askar, Tulkarm, Nur Shams and Jenin camps, and ground profile drawings along proposed routes were prepared as part of the contract documents. Refuse collection and disposal at Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps were improved by the use of a new UNRWA skip-lift vehicle and matching containers. Two other garbage compactor trucks for Arrub, Fawwar and Far'a camps were put into operation. Nevertheless, refuse

collection and disposal in the camps throughout the occupied territory continued to suffer operational difficulties, especially during curfews and strikes.

92. In Gaza, emphasis was placed upon upgrading water and liquid waste disposal in the eight congested camps of the Strip. In Jabalia, a feasibility study was conducted for unification of water supply sources and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) finalized all arrangements for implementing the construction of a sewerage scheme. Two water augmentation projects were underway in Bureij and Maghazi camps, which experienced severe water shortages in each of the past two summers. The project for replacement of the Bureij camp sewage pumping station did not begin, pending final approval by the occupation authorities. The approval of WHO was obtained to use a governmental contribution towards environmental health projects in Beach camp, comprising replacement of the main pumping station, construction of a high pressure line and replacement of two old municipal pumping stations. Also in Beach camp, an agreement was reached with Gaza municipality regarding the placement of a storm drain to the sea to eliminate a localized flooding problem.

C. Relief and social services

93. The intifadah and the Israeli response to it, on the one hand, greatly increased the number of families unable to satisfy their own basic needs and, on the other, stimulated a remarkable determination to produce both goods and employment. Fewer refugees were able to find full-time work within the territory or in Israel and the number searching for jobs was augmented by students whose schools and universities were closed. Remittances from abroad fell and many families were left without a breadwinner because of death, injuries or detention. Refugees thus turned to UNRWA in larger numbers for material assistance and for support in setting up small enterprises of their own.

94. The Agency's emergency relief programmes are described in paragraph 101 of this report. They complemented the special hardship assistance, which, by June 1990, was being given to almost 71,400 refugees in the West Bank and Gaza under the normal programme and another 4,400 as a supplementary measure. By the end of the reporting period 13.4 per cent of the refugees eligible for services in Gaza were registered as special hardship cases. In the West Bank too, at 9.1 per cent of the refugees, the special hardship cases were significantly more than the Agency-wide average of 7.8 per cent. These percentages were higher than the previous year.

95. In the belief that direct relief must be accompanied by the search for ways of helping the refugees meet their own needs, particular attention was paid to promoting self-support projects and identifying and nurturing small enterprises. Among the special hardship cases, Agency social workers succeeded in establishing 45 small businesses in the West Bank and 25 in Gaza with grants in aid. In Gaza a $25,000 loan was made in May 1990 to a garment factory that was able to employ 60 workers, including 20 women, three of whom were disabled. This was the largest credit yet advanced under the loan programme, which by June 1990 was supporting 105 projects in Gaza and 62 in the West Bank. The bulk of the projects were industrial workshops and animal husbandry, but others were in the service sector, horticulture, and medical technology. In spite of difficulties caused by various Israeli measures to control the intifadah and the detention of several of the loan recipients, business was sufficiently good to sustain a 75 per cent rate of

repayment of loans. The 167 projects provided work directly to 462 persons, and, if each of these represented the typical five-person household, this meant well over 2,000 people were supported through the scheme.

96. The women's programme centres played an important role in the occupied territory as a facility for skill-training and a secure meeting place where women could support one another and discuss issues of common concern. Over the past two years, the number of women participating in activities at the centres doubled in 10 locations each in the West Bank and Gaza. Courses were conducted in dressmaking, machine-knitting, cooking and home economics, and hairdressing, skills which are demanded today not only to assist in the conservation of household income but to augment it. The opportunities for women to earn money from their homes or in small enterprises grew perceptibly if slowly. In July 1989, 505 young women graduated from an 11-month combined course in dressmaking, home economics and health education, and a similar number were enrolled in the 1989/90 course due to be completed in August. At three centres in the West Bank classes were conducted in literacy for women who requested them.

97. The number of Palestine refugees in the occupied territory disabled through permanent injury increased during the intifadah. In the West Bank and in Gaza, UNRWA played its part along with local organizations in promoting and developing outreach through community-based rehabilitation programmes. In the West Bank, the Agency made available premises to non-governmental organizations working with the disabled in Dheisheh and Kalandia camps. In Fawwar camp, a project proposal was prepared for a community-based rehabilitation centre on the lines of those pioneered in Jordan. In Gaza, the Training Centre for the Blind opened the extension to its premises in May 1990 and was able to receive a larger number of children and young people in both its schooling and vocational training sections: production workshops were also being expanded. The Centre supported projects for knitted goods, brooms, brushes and canework at the Centre itself and through home service units in the refugee camps. Over the past year those projects enabled 35 blind adults to supplement family income. In Gaza, too, arrangements were in hand for the first community-based rehabilitation centre in Jabalia camp where a house-to-house survey identified no less than 1,100 disabled refugees.

98. An additional concern in Gaza was the future of the Palestine refugees stranded on the Egyptian side of the border, in Canada camp, who, under an agreement between Israel and Egypt, were to return to the Gaza Strip where they would be reunited with their families. In August 1989, a group of 20 families were accommodated in Rafah, Gaza. The Agency assisted them for a six-month settling-in period with the rations on which they had relied in the Sinai. The agreement between the Israeli and Egyptian authorities for the other families, who numbered over 800, was that they should return to the Tel el-Sultan housing project in a phased transfer. The compensation provided by the Egyptian Government to each family for the housing they would leave behind was a mere fraction of the cost of a simple house of sufficient size to accommodate the household and very few families were able to accumulate any savings with which to supplement the compensation. Local efforts to raise additional funds have not so far been successful. By the end of the reporting period, over 35 heads of family had begun to build their new homes, which must be completed before families are permitted to return. Consequently, plans have been postponed under which UNDP was to construct a centre in Tel el-Sultan to provide shops and workshops for the returnees to rent. Meanwhile, UNRWA continued to provide food rations to some 4,000 refugees in the Canada camp who were mostly unemployed and living in poverty.

D. Extraordinary measures of general assistance and protection

99. The programme of extraordinary measures in the occupied territory comprised measures to cope with the effects of the intifadah and the countermeasures of the authorities. It included health services, relief and social services and general assistance. The budget for the extraordinary measures in both West Bank and Gaza for 1990 was approximately $29 million.

100. The Agency instituted training programmes and provided equipment for its clinics to deal with large numbers of wounded and to evacuate casualties to hospital. Most Agency clinics operated an additional shift for emergencies and five in Gaza remained open 24 hours a day. These measures were expected to cost $1.8 million in 1990. More patients were referred to hospital and many required extensive care for which additional funds amounting to $590,000 were provided. Approximately $1.2 million worth of additional medical supplies and equipment were provided for clinics and for use of refugee patients in hospitals. The provision of supplementary food to children and to pregnant and nursing women was extended to the benefit of more registered refugees and to the benefit of non-registered refugees at a cost of $1.8 million.

101. Emergency relief measures included extended provision of cash assistance to those in immediate distress, for which $1.2 million was budgeted, extension of special hardship benefits to those with longer term needs at an expected cost of $410,000, and provision of food commodities, primarily flour, to needy families at an expected cost of $12 million. A further aspect of the Agency's emergency measures was the programme of general assistance and protection. The major component of this programme was the assignment of 13 international staff members in the West Bank and 10 in the Gaza Strip as refugee affairs officers. They facilitated Agency operations and assisted the refugee population in their day-to-day life. The refugee affairs officers also helped, by their presence, to lower tensions and to prevent maltreatment of the refugees, especially vulnerable groups such as women and children. They helped to evacuate the wounded, to reduce interference with ambulances and to obtain the release of refugee children. They assisted the population as occasion arose, for example, to obtain permits for funerals. They also helped to obtain curfew permits to carry on essential services during curfew periods and to facilitate the movement of essential food and medical supplies to camps and other locations where needed. In performing these functions the refugee affairs officers sometimes succeeded in establishing a dialogue with Civil Administration officials and were able to assist on the spot in numerous matters affecting the welfare of the population. Refugee affairs officers continued to be of particular assistance to UNRWA local staff members who found it especially difficult to carry out their functions in the prevailing situation.

E. Expanded programme of assistance

102. In the report submitted to the Security Council in accordance with its resolution 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, the Secretary-General noted that he had requested the Commissioner-General, inter alia, to prepare proposals for improving the infrastructure of the refugeee camps and to seek the necessary funds (S/119443, para. 48). In early 1988, the Commissioner-General presented a broad plan of action to a meeting of representatives of major donor and host countries. This expanded programme of assistance to the occupied territory had a target figure of $65 million, and was intended to improve the living conditions in the West Bank and

Gaza Strip. Against this target, $30 million had been received or pledged by mid-1990.

103. The expanded programme was further developed during 1988 and 1989 and covered shelter rehabilitation; improvement and expansion of health services, including construction, supplies, equipment and training; environmental sanitation, improved water supply; employment; income-generating and self-support projects; logistics; improvement of Agency installations through which services are delivered; and some education projects such as scholarships.

104. During the reporting period, priority was given to the rehabilitation of shelters belonging to special hardship cases in the camps. Satisfactory progress was achieved in this programme, which included reconstruction, upgrading, repair and maintenance. The Agency made major interventions in environmental sanitation projects in the camps to deal with health hazards stemming from lack of adequate sewage and refuse disposal systems by planning, surveying and designing large sewage projects, including one major system in Beach camp in the Gaza Strip and eight in the West Bank. Implementation began on those projects for which funds had been received, notably in Beach camp in Gaza, and in Aida, Amari, Beit Jibrin and Dheisheh camps in the West Bank. Equipment such as compactor trucks and containers was provided to those camps where strikes or curfews often prevented municipal trucks from carting away the refuse. The supply of potable water in the occupied territory continued to be a serious problem, in particular in Gaza. As an interim measure, the Agency tendered for the installation of two reverse osmosis plants in Rafah and Khan Younis camps and commissioned a study of road and storm water design and an integrated water network in Jabalia camp.

105. Plans were proceeding for the construction of nine additional health centres, sub-centres and health points in West Bank and Gaza, with existing health centres being renovated, expanded and upgraded through improved and new equipment. Installation of nine pre-fabricated physiotherapy units was begun as part of a larger physiotherapy programme. Mobile dental units, additional health buses and afternoon shifts and outreach nursing programmes continued to provide much needed and speedy care and coverage.

106. At reporting time, approximately 100 projects and sub-projects were at various stages between negotiation and completion; about 35 were completed and another 50 were under implementation. The Agency began to experience delays in implementation, with the Israeli authorities imposing new conditions on allowing construction projects inside refugee camps to proceed. As a result, some projects were rejected outright by the authorities, others which had started were prevented from continuing, while still others were delayed pending clearance.

VII. LEGAL MATTERS

A. Agency staff

107. The annual reports of the past two years referred to increases in the number of staff members arrested and detained without charge or trial in the occupied territory. This trend continued in the present reporting period. In Lebanon the total number of staff kidnapped or detained decreased. Two staff members from Canada Camp in the Sinai were deported from Egypt. One of them was arrested during the reporting period (see annex I, table 11).

108. UNRWA remained unable to obtain adequate and timely information on the reasons for the arrest and detention of its staff members. In the absence of such information the Agency was unable to ascertain whether the staff members' official functions were involved. It was also unable to ensure that their rights and duties flowing from the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 1946 and the pertinent Staff Regulations and Rules of UNRWA were duly respected.

109. The treatment of staff in detention caused considerable concern. There were instances of Agency staff (both area and international) who, while performing their official duties, were intimidated and subjected to physical abuse by Israeli soldiers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Staff members complained of beatings and other forms of brutality during their detention. In the Gaza Strip alone, the Agency registered more than 170 incidents in which staff alleged mistreatment. Four area staff members in the Gaza Strip were killed as alleged collaborators.

110. The Agency experienced more difficulties than in the previous year in visiting detained staff members, but had access to 13 staff members from the West Bank who were held in prisons and detention centres, including nine held in detention centres in Israel. While the authorities promised to make the necessary arrangements, obstacles to making these arrangements persisted. The Agency had access to 47 staff members from the Gaza Strip who were held in the Kitziot detention camp in the Negev. It had access for the first time to two staff members held in the Beach detention camp, Gaza Town. It had no access to staff from the Gaza Strip detained elsewhere by the Israeli occupation authorities. The Agency had access to one of the two staff members prior to deportation by the Egyptian authorities (see para. 107 above). The Agency had no success in visiting staff in detention in Jordan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon.

111. The Agency continued to meet difficulties in the travel of staff into and out of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. There were substantial delays in the clearance of staff for travel, which was refused in some cases. A staff member was required to report on five occasions to the Israeli authorities in connection with duty travel to Canada Camp but received no explanation for the refusal of travel facilities. The movement of both international and area staff within the West Bank and the Gaza Strip was affected by the frequent imposition of curfews and the designation of areas as closed military zones. In the Gaza Strip the Israeli authorities continued to insist that area staff move during curfews only if in possession of permits issued by the Israeli Civil Administration. The Israeli authorities failed to renew a substantial number of permits issued at the beginning of 1990, as a result of which Agency operations were impeded and even stopped in many areas during three periods of general curfew. As from August 1989 the Israeli

authorities also insisted on area staff members obtaining a "magnetic card" if they wished to travel through Israel, even on official duty.

112. The Agency continued to take up with the Israeli authorities the practice of summoning area staff for interrogation during office hours. In particular in October 1989, despite protest, a number of senior area staff members in the Gaza Strip were questioned on various aspects of Agency operations. In the West Bank, the questioning of staff members during official hours decreased during the reporting period.

B. Agency services and premises

113. In the increasingly complex and tense environment that persisted in the occupied territory during the reporting period, the Agency continued its efforts to support the upholding of the safety and security and the legal and human rights of the refugees. Some of the measures of passive protection which the Agency extended in the territory are detailed at paragraph 101 of this report. The Agency also found it necessary to reflect the concerns of the international community about the situation on the ground. The heavy toll of the casualties in the reporting period - over 23,000 cases of injuries recorded by the Agency, including a substantial proportion of women and children, of which nearly 18,000 were refugees was protested to the authorities as an excessive use of force by the Israeli security forces, especially beatings and the use of live ammunition in situations which could not be regarded as life threatening (see annex I, table 12). Other measures, such as collective punishments, punitive demolitions, sealing of shelters, arrest and detention without charge or trial, physical and moral coercion, interference with medical services, were also protested as a failure on the part of the Israeli military authorities to uphold standards required under international humanitarian law. Those measures which related to the population in the occupied territory were of direct concern to the Agency in its efforts to provide the refugees with essential humanitarian services.

114. Unauthorized entry by the Israeli authorities into Agency premises increased. During the reporting period 555 intrusions into Agency premises were recorded in the Gaza Strip and 191 in the West Bank. In several cases such intrusions into Agency premises resulted in injury to staff or damage to property or both. The Commissioner-General, in his statement to the Special Political Committee on 19 October 1989, referred to what appeared to have been co-ordinated raids on 18 October 1989 when Israeli soldiers, accompanied by Civil Administration officers, entered the Deir el-Balah Distribution Centre in the Gaza Strip and the Agency's camp services offices in Jalazone, Dheisheh and Fawwar camps in the West Bank and ransacked a number of files and other official documents. In this incident, two UNRWA international staff members and one area staff member were arrested and force used against them. On 6 February 1990, Israeli authorities entered Rafah health centre in the Gaza Strip and, despite objections by staff on duty, ransacked Agency records and stores and questioned staff on matters relating to the Agency's health services. The Agency noted with concern an increasing number of intrusions into health centres in the Gaza Strip. In the month of June 1990 alone, 22 incursions into health centres were registered. By way of example, on 12 June 1990, Israeli soldiers pursuing stone throwers threw two tear gas grenades into the Rimal health centre in Gaza Town affecting patients including 66 registered infants awaiting treatment. The Agency protested these actions as violations of the Agency's privileges and immunities. The Israeli authorities

invoked considerations of military security and, in some cases, claimed that Agency installations had been misused. The Agency was pursuing the legal and other aspects of this matter.

115. The Agency also protested as violations of its privileges and immunities other actions of the Israeli security forces. For example, ambulances carrying injured persons for medical attention were interfered with, and staff performing their duties were ill-treated. In October 1989 an ambulance carrying injured persons from Khan Younis camp in the Gaza Strip was stopped, searched and the driver beaten. In another instance, in April 1990, a doctor at the Jabalia health centre was beaten when he refused to order his staff to stop working and to leave the clinic. The Agency was particularly concerned with interference with these services which were all the more required in the prevailing situation in the occupied territory.

116. The Agency viewed with concern recent incidents in which Israeli soldiers occupied Agency installations, in some cases for lengthy periods. The establishment of a military observation post on the roof of a school in Aqbat Jabr camp in the West Bank, which was referred to in the 1987-1988 annual report, was virtually continuous from mid-November 1989, despite frequent protests by the Agency. The authorities also issued a military order purporting to seize a part of this installation for the use of the Israel Defence Forces. Again, despite protests by the Agency, a military observation post was established on the roof of the head teacher's office of Kalandia Girls' School in the West Bank for the period 26-30 April 1990. In Jabalia camp in the Gaza Strip, the Israeli authorities erected a six-metre high barbed-wire fence around the UNRWA women's activities centre, construction of which had been prevented by the authorities in the last reporting period. As a result, there was no access to the site of the centre and to a home service unit attached to the Training Centre for the Blind. The reason given was in effect security, as the Israeli authorities established a military installation adjacent to the women's activities centre. The Agency repeatedly protested and called upon the authorities to refrain from such actions in conformity with their international legal obligations. The barricading of entrances to camps and the erection of fences, reported in the past two years' reports, continued to pose problems. Several new barricades were erected and many barricades constructed earlier remained in place.

117. Despite the Agency's protest, the Government of Jordan used some Agency installations, including the Wadi Seer Training Centre, as polling stations in the national elections held on 8 November 1989.

118. In the Gaza Strip 173 rooms were demolished, affecting 540 persons and reflecting a marked increase in punitive demolitions. In contrast, the number of shelters demolished for punitive reasons in the West Bank fell considerably during the reporting period. In the West Bank two shelters were demolished on punitive grounds, affecting 16 persons. In addition nine shelters were sealed, affecting 66 persons in the West Bank, and 34 rooms affecting 149 persons in the Gaza Strip. The number of demolitions carried out on grounds of illegal construction increased. The Agency continued to press the Israeli authorities for compensation for families affected by the demolition of adjacent shelters during the previous year. The Agency protested the punitive demolitions and sealings of shelters as being incompatible with articles 33 and 53 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949. The Agency also continued to take up with the Israeli authorities the status of the sites of

shelters demolished on punitive grounds. The Israeli Civil Administration continued to object to the reconstruction of shelters demolished on punitive grounds. The Agency pointed to assurances formally given by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs as far back as May 1971 that there was no objection to such reconstruction.

119. The Agency had difficulties in carrying out urgently needed construction for its operations in the occupied territory. Notwithstanding past practice, the Israeli authorities in effect required that the Agency should obtain permits from the Civil Administration before embarking on new construction. Many projects were delayed and the authorities stopped the work on others. The Agency was pursuing the matter with the authorities.

120. The Government of Israel did not yet reimburse the Agency for clearance, warehousing and transport charges, payable to the Agency under the Comaxy-Michelmore provisional agreement of 14 June 1967. 3/ As described in last year's report, the Agency continued to advance the sums required, while maintaining that this was a temporary measure, it being understood that the sums so advanced would be reimbursed. At the end of the reporting period, the Government of Israel had still given no indication that it was willing to agree to reimburse the Agency these advances, which stood at $3,452,895 at the end of the reporting period.

C. Claims against Governments

121. The Agency regrets that no progress was made with regard to its various claims against Governments.

Notes

1/ As concerns refugees, the General Assembly in its resolution 44/47 I of 8 December 1989, inter alia, urged the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, "to continue to work for the upholding of the safety and security and the legal and human rights of the Palestine refugees in all the territories under Israeli occupation in 1967 and thereafter".

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/43/13).

3/ Exchange of letters constituting a provisional agreement between UNRWA and Israel concerning assistance to Palestine refugees (United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 620, No. 8955, p. 183).

ANNEX I

Statistical and financial information

Table		Page
1.	Number of registered persons	33
2.	Distribution of registered population	34
3.	Number and distribution of special hardship cases	35
4.	Social services programme	36
5.	Distribution of refugee pupils in UNRWA schools	37
6.	Training places in UNRWA training centres	38
7.	University scholarship-holders by faculty and country of study	39
8.	Medical care services	40
9.	Trends in utilization of out-patient clinics	41
10.	Incidence trends of selected communicable diseases	42
11.	Staff members arrested and detained	43
12.	Casualties in the occupied territory	44
13.	Contributions in cash and in kind by Governments and by the European Community*	46

* For more detailed information on the financing of the Agency's programme see the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1989 and the report of the Board of Auditors (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 5C (A/45/5/Add.3)).

Table 1. Number of registered persons a/

(As at 30 June each year)

Field	1950	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1989	1990
Lebanon	127 600	136 561	159 810	175 958	196 855	226 554	263 599	294 272	302 049
Syrian Arab Republic	82 194	115 043	135 971	158 717	184 042	209 362	244 626	272 778	280 731
Jordan	506 200	613 743	688 089	506 038	625 857	716 372	799 724	899 811	929 097
West Bank	-	-	-	272 692	292 922	324 035	357 704	398 391	414 298
Gaza Strip	198 227	255 542	296 953	311 814	333 031	367 995	427 892	469 385	496 339
Total	914 221 b/	1 120 889	1 280 823	1 425 219	1 632 707	1 844 318	2 093 545	2 334 637	2 422 514

a/ These statistics are based on UNRWA registration records, which are updated continually. The number of registered refugees present in the Agency's area of operations, however, is almost certainly less than the population recorded. The Agency's budgeted expenditure is based not on the registration records but on the projected numbers of beneficiaries of its services. In 1989-1990, 362,730 refugees enrolled in education or training programmes, approximately 2.1 million were eligible for health care and 151,862 persons received special hardship assistance.

b/ This total excludes 45,800 persons receiving relief in Israel, who were the responsibility of UNRWA until June 1952.

Table 2. Distribution of registered population

(As at 30 June 1990)

Field	Population	Number of camps	Total registered camp population a/	Registered persons not in camps	Percentage of registered population not in camps
Lebanon	302 049	13	154 533	147 516	48.84
Syrian Arab Republic	280 731	10	82 407	198 324	70.65
Jordan	929 097	10	222 972	706 125	76.00
West Bank	414 298	20	110 010	304 288	73.45
Gaza Strip	496 339	8	271 938	224 401	45.21
Total	2 422 514	61	841 860	1 580 654	65.25

a/ It is estimated that a further 52,000 persons, who are not registered refugees, live in camps. About 37,000 of these are persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 hostilities.

Table 3. Number and distribution of special hardship cases

(As at 30 June 1990)

Field	Number of families	Number of persons		Total	Percentage of eligible refugee population
		Receiving rations	Not receiving rations a/		
Lebanon	8 709	34 836	513	35 349	13.36
Syrian Arab Republic	4 023	13 188	1 266	14 454	5.21
Jordan	6 508	28 179	2 508	30 687	3.31
West Bank	6 440	23 986	2 783	26 769	7.39
Gaza Strip	9 537	42 760	1 843	44 603	12.24
Total	35 217	142 949	8 913	151 862	7.01

a/ Includes children under one year of age, imprisoned individuals, students studying away from home etc.

Table 4. Social services programme

(1 July 1989-30 June 1990)

Field	Youth activities		Women's programme		Craft training		Support for disabled			Income-generation							
							Community-based rehabilitation			Self-support grants				Loan-based projects			
										Up to 7/89		7/89 to 6/90		7/89 to 6/90		Up to 6/90	
	Centres	Participants	Centres	Participants	Sewing and embroidery Graduates	Carpentry Graduates	Centres	Participants	Referrals to rehabilitation facilities	No.	Grants $	No.	Grants $	No.	Loans $	No.	Total loans $
Jordan	-	-	11	800	130	-	4	160	42	86	47 820	21	29 007	-	-	-	-
West Bank	17	2 201	5	456	187	43	1	22	18	32	187 626	13	112 515	18	124 000	62)	
Gaza	8	a/	10	940	418	-	-	-	27	25	102 636	-	-	19	170 350	105)	1.3 million
Lebanon	-	-	2	100	90	-	-	-	50	54	91 640	49	131 047	-	-	-	-
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	7	207	198	-	-	-	19	47	95 442	b/	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	25	2 201	35	2 503	1 023	43	5	182	156	244	525 164	83	272 569	37	294 350	-	-

a/ Centres are temporarily closed by authorities.

b/ Programme suspended February 1989 at the request of the Government, pending outcome of discussions with the Agency on home visits.

Table 5. Distribution of refugee pupils in UNRWA schools a/

(As at 15 October 1989)

Field	Number of UNRWA schools	Number of teachers	Number of pupils in elementary classes c/			Number of pupils in preparatory classes c/			Total number of pupils
			Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
Lebanon	76	1 173	11 829	11 357	23 186	5 005	5 108	10 113	33 299
Syrian Arab Republic	111	1 581	19 873	18 531	38 404	8 942	8 200	17 142	55 546
Jordan	197	3 728	47 910	45 999	93 909	20 496	19 403	39 899	133 808
West Bank b/	98	1 339	12 616	15 408	28 024	5 284	6 148	11 432	39 456
Gaza Strip	149	2 682	35 591	33 280	68 871	14 225	12 501	26 726	95 597
TOTAL	631	10 503	127 819	124 575	252 394	53 952	51 360	105 312	357 706

a/ Excluding an estimated total of 115,300 refugee pupils attending elementary, preparatory and secondary government and private schools.

b/ Because of the closure of the schools in the West Bank by Israeli military order for most of 1989, the 1989/90 school year began on 10 January 1990.

c/ Including non-eligible children attending UNRWA schools, who now number 56,569.

Table 6. Training places in UNRWA training centres

(Academic year 1989/90)

	Lebanon		Syrian Arab Republic		Jordan				West Bank a/						Gaza Strip		Total		Grand Total
	Sibling Training Centre		Damascus Vocational Training Centre		Amman Training Centre		Wadi Seer Training Centre		Kalandia Training Centre		Ramallan Women's Training Centre		Ramallah Men's Training Centre		Gaza Training Centre				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
A. Vocational and technical education																			
1. Post-preparatory level b/	396	-	512	-	-	60	544	-	336	-	-	124	-	-	652	-	2 440	184	2 624
2. Post-secondary level c/	162	82	155	101	89	231	228	16	144	-	-	228	116	-	-	-	894	658	1 552
Total	558	82	667	101	89	291	772	16	480	-	-	352	116	-	652	-	3 334	842	4 176
B. Pre-service teacher training	-	-	-	-	125	175	-	-	-	-	-	300	250	-	-	-	375	475	850
Grand total	558	82	667	101	214	466	772	16	480	-	-	652	366	-	652	-	3 709	1 317	5 026

a/ Because of the closure of the centres in the West Bank by Israeli military order during 1989, academic year 1989/90 for the three West Bank training centres started in March/April 1990.

b/ Courses in mechanical, metal, electrical and building trades.

c/ Courses in technical, commercial, electronics, computer science and paramedical fields.

Table 7. University scholarship-holders by faculty and country of study

(Academic year 1989/90)

	Lebanon		Syrian Arab Republic		Jordan		West Bank a/ b/		Egypt		Others c/		Total		Grand total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Engineering	24	3	30	16	61	15	30	3	5	1	22	-	172	38	210
Medicine	2	1	50	26	32	9	-	-	4	-	7	5	95	41	136
Science	18	8	1	2	5	8	2	2	7	2	3	2	36	24	60
Pharmacy	4	8	8	8	15	10	-	-	4	-	1	2	32	28	60
Arts	1	3	-	-	2	5	2	9	2	-	-	-	7	17	24
Dentistry	-	-	19	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	20	11	31
Nursing	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Business administration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2
Commerce	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	4
Education and teacher training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	-	-	3	6	9
Law	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Total	49	23	108	63	115	49	34	16	27	12	35	9	368	172	539

a/ Owing to the closure of institutions of higher learning by Israeli military order, the 50 scholars (34 male and 16 female) scheduled to study at West Bank universities were unable to do so.

b/ Excluding 48 scholarships whose award to deserving students is not yet finalized owing to late receipt of registration documents from universities outside the West Bank.

c/ Other countries were: Turkey (22 male students and 1 female student), Yemen (1 male and 1 female student) and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (12 male and 7 female students).

Table 8. Medical care services

(1 July 1989-30 June 1990)

Type of service	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
A. Curative medical care						
1. Out-patient care						
Number of patients	126 129	172 996	324 760	141 319	233 838	999 042
Number of patient visits:						
Medical treatment a/	789 488	946 837	1 300 529	864 304	1 682 184	5 583 342
Dental treatment	42 090	56 045	105 200	43 529	69 921	316 485
2. In-patient care b/						
Hospital beds available	144	55	40	197	40	476
Beds/1,000 population ratio	0.05	0.62	0.09	0.56	0.22	0.23
Number of patients admitted	12 052	4 423	1 356	14 200	4 127	36 158
Annual patient days per 1,000 population	208	56	10	209	39	76
B. Preventive medical care						
1. Maternal and child health care						
Pregnant women (average monthly attendance)	1 669	1 580	4 061	2 793	7 062	17 165
Children below 3 years (average attendance) c/	11 261	17 550	40 160	22 368	47 331	138 670
2. Expanded programme of immunization (number of full primary series)						
Triple (DPT) vaccine	5 873	6 851	16 440	7 670	17 709	54 543
Polio vaccine	4 804	6 334	14 156	6 793	16 191	48 278
BCG vaccine	6 586	6 256	14 007	7 137	16 214	50 200
Measles vaccine	5 673	6 269	15 404	8 041	15 133	50 520
3. School health						
Number of school entrants examined	3 603	7 493	11 503	5 311	10 285	38 195
Number of booster vaccinations	17 593	22 802	48 118	15 946	31 263	135 722

a/ Includes visits for medical consultations, injections, dressings and eye treatment.

b/ Data presented is on services provided by UNRWA through contractual agreements. It does not, therefore, include in-patient care provided to refugees in government hospitals or UNRWA maternities.

c/ Health monitoring is monthly for those under one year of age, bimonthly for age group 1 to 2 years and trimonthly for age group 2 to 3 years.

Table 9. Trends in utilization of out-patient clinics

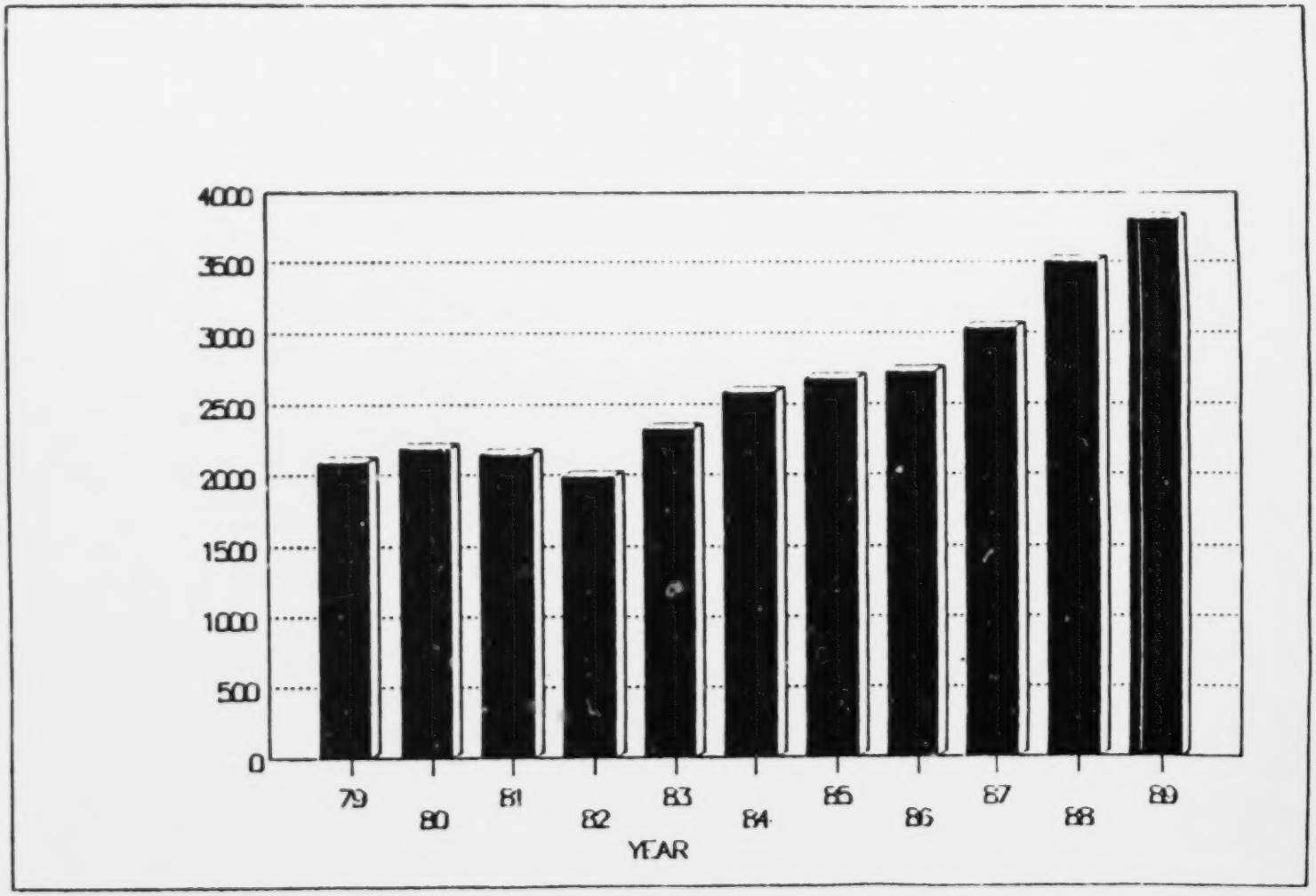
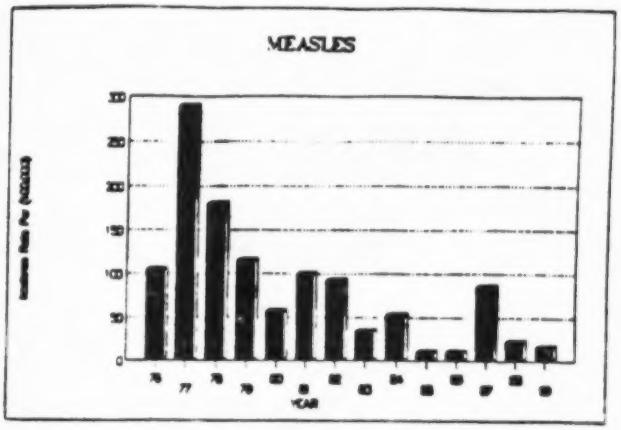
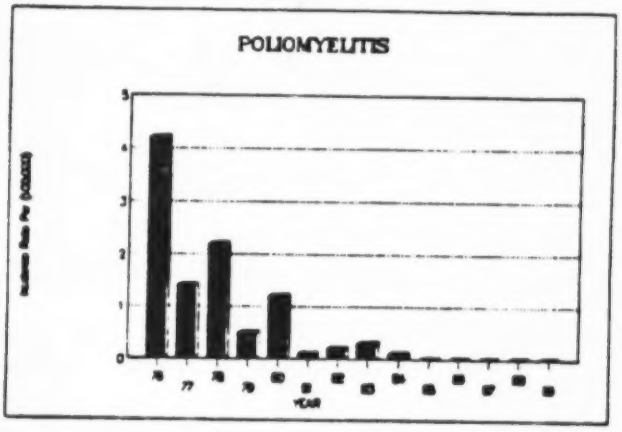


Table 10. Incidence trends of selected communicable diseases
Rate per 100,000





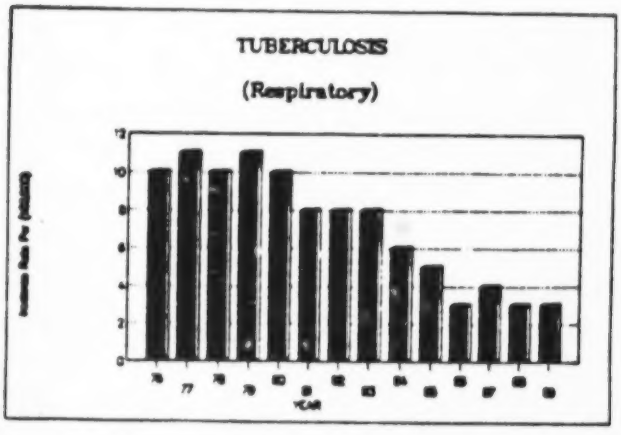


Table 11. Staff members arrested and detained

(1 July 1989-30 June 1990)

	Gaza Strip	West Bank	Egypt c/ (Canada Camp)	Jordan	Syrian Arab Republic	Lebanon	Total
Arrested or detained and released without charge or trial	39	53	-	2	-	6 d/	100
Charged, tried and sentenced	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Still in detention	31	18	-	-	1	1 e/	51
Total	78 a/	71 b/	-	2	1	7	159

a/ Four staff members were arrested more than once.

b/ Seven staff members were arrested more than once.

c/ Two staff members were deported, one of whom had been arrested in the reporting period.

d/ Three staff members were understood to have been detained by Syrian forces in Lebanon and three kidnapped by unknown military.

e/ Understood to have been detained by Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Table 12. Casualties in the occupied territory

(1 July 1989-30 June 1990) a/ b/

Camp/area	Shot	Beaten	Rubber bullet wounds	Tear-gas	Others	Total		
						All	Residents/ status unknown	Registered refugees
I. Gaza Strip								
A. Injuries								
Jabalia	1 106	1 861	-	255	4	3 226	99	3 127
Beach Camp	557	1 159	8	316	-	2 040	11	2 029
Gaza	697	3 890	-	369	11	4 967	2 769	2 198
Sheik Radwan	212	743	-	106	1	1 062	10	1 052
Beit Hanoun	186	362	-	50	-	598	77	521
Bureij	405	349	55	206	9	1 024	3	1 021
Nuseirat	320	242	19	103	3	687	3	684
Deir el-Balah	150	121	16	63	4	354	6	348
Maghazi	175	129	20	105	4	433	1	432
Khan Younis	1 072	1 145	18	384	6	2 625	282	2 343
Rafah	1 493	603	7	220	17	2 340	33	2 307
Total injuries	6 373	10 604	143	2 177	59	19 356	3 294	16 062
B. Fatalities	83	5	1	1	1	91	9	82
Total casualties	6 456	10 609	144	2 178	60	19 447	3 303	16 144

Table 12 (continued)

Camp/area	Shot	Beaten	Rubber bullet wounds	Tear-gas	Others	Total		
						All	Residents/ status unknown	Registered refugees
II. West Bank								
A. Injuries								
Area not specified	40	83	26	16	4	169	145	24
Hebron	96	88	61	110	4	359	91	268
Jericho	1	2	-	-	2	5	1	4
Jerusalem	82	121	131	61	15	410	183	227
Nablus	644	1 184	615	306	252	3 001	1 849	1 152
Total injuries	863	1 478	833	493	277	3 944	2 269	1 675
B. Fatalities	138	1	3	5	17	164	134	30
Total casualties	1 001	1 479	836	498	294	4 108	2 403	1 705

a/ The figures are those reported to or made known to UNRWA and should not be treated as exhaustive. It should be noted that, particularly for the West Bank, the statement provides an incomplete picture of the number of injuries because injured persons have recourse to facilities other than Agency health centres. Indeed, the figures for injuries, when compared with those of fatalities in the West Bank, indicate that almost certainly the majority of injuries have not been reported.

b/ The figures given for fatalities do not include the killings of 132 alleged collaborators (61 in the Gaza Strip and 71 in the West Bank).

Table 13. Contributions in cash and in kind by Governments and by the European Community

(United States dollars)

(1 January 1988 - 31 December 1989)

Contributor	Total contribution 1988	1989 regular budget a/	1989 emergencies b/	1989 total
Argentina	15 000	-	-	-
Australia	1 007 182	2 176 514	-	2 176 514
Austria	228 472	145 000	344 928	489 928
Bahamas	-	1 000	-	1 000
Bahrain	15 000	30 000	-	30 000
Barbados	1 000	1 000	-	1 000
Belgium	485 302	455 696	-	455 696
Brazil	20 000	-	-	-
Brunei Darussalam	10 000	10 000	-	10 000
Burma	1 000	1 000	-	1 000
Cameroon	-	3 506	-	3 506
Canada	7 791 221	9 478 575	-	9 478 575
Chile	5 000	5 000	-	5 000
China	50 000	716 886	-	716 886
Colombia	-	4 095	-	4 095
Cuba	-	166 990	-	166 990
Cyprus	2 242	4 507	-	4 507
Czechoslovakia	-	-	19 428	19 428

Table 13 (continued)

Contributor	Total contribution 1988	1989 regular budget a/	1989 emergencies b/	1989 total
Denmark	5 942 745	5 470 776	-	5 470 776
Egypt	-	8 853	1 024	9 877
Finland	2 433 788	3 051 601	-	3 051 601
France	1 781 123	1 534 269	214 664	1 748 933
Germany, Federal Republic of	6 165 583	5 518 367	1 447 999	6 966 366
Greece	106 605	75 000	359 966	434 966
Holy See	-	34 500	-	34 500
Iceland	9 500	9 500	-	9 500
India	-	31 953	-	31 953
Indonesia	8 000	8 000	-	8 000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	30 000 c/	-	30 000
Iraq	3 200 000	-	-	-
Ireland	104 228	102 888	-	102 888
Israel	458 770	68 900	-	68 900
Italy	21 306 502	10 968 913	2 027 900	12 996 813
Jamaica	3 091	3 093	-	3 093
Japan	13 692 769	19 495 332	6 970 400	26 465 732
Jordan	532 006	334 637	-	334 637
Kuwait	7 600 000	1 000 000	500 000	1 500 000
Lebanon	452	365	-	365
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2 799 965	-	1 000 000	1 000 000

Table 13 (continued)

Contributor	Total contribution 1988	1989 regular budget a/	1989 emergencies b/	1989 total
Luxembourg	10 486	20 760	-	20 760
Malaysia	5 000	10 000	-	10 000
Maldives	1 000	1 000	-	1 000
Malta	1 190	1 111	-	1 111
Mauritius	1 313	1 148	-	1 148
Mexico	6 000	3 000	-	3 000
Monaco	2 947	3 180	-	3 180
Morocco	28 358	-	1 052 570	1 052 570
Netherlands	3 062 747	2 770 602	-	2 770 602
New Zealand	80 460	70 776	-	70 776
Norway	9 761 171	9 214 578	218 560	9 433 138
Pakistan	20 000	18 215	283 500	301 715
Philippines	-	2 000	-	2 000
Portugal	-	40 000	-	40 000
Qatar	2 100 000	200 000	-	200 000
Republic of Korea	10 000	10 000	-	10 000
Saudi Arabia	1 200 000	1 200 000	-	1 200 000
Seychelles	800	-	-	-
Spain	1 570 164	2 146 601	-	2 146 601
Sri Lanka	2 200	2 000	-	2 000
Sweden	14 630 943	14 025 558	1 533 860	15 559 418
Switzerland	7 660 579	5 313 352	-	5 313 352

Table 13 (continued)

Contributor	Total contribution 1988	1989 regular budget a/	1989 emergencies b/	1989 total
Syrian Arab Republic	63 392	69 196	-	69 196
Thailand	14 215	14 038	-	14 038
Togo	2 449	-	-	-
Tunisia	29 997	9 419	-	9 419
Turkey	94 868	35 000	-	35 000
United Arab Emirates	3 000 000	-	-	-
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	9 117 501	9 123 692	-	9 123 692
United States of America	61 300 000	61 300 000	4 000 000	65 300 000
Venezuela	-	10 000	-	10 000
Yugoslavia	-	-	17 800	17 800
Subtotal	189 554 326	166 561 942	19 992 599	186 554 541
European Community	30 617 807	37 326 497	507 215	37 833 712
Grand total	220 172 133	203 888 439	20 499 814	224 388 253

a/ Actual receipts for general fund and projects.

b/ Actual receipts for the emergency operations in Lebanon and the occupied territory.

c/ Contributions for 1988.

ANNEX II

Pertinent records of the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies a/

1. General Assembly resolutions

Resolution number	Date of adoption	Resolution number	Date of adoption
194 (III)	11 December 1948	2672 (XXV)	8 December 1970
212 (III)	19 November 1948	2728 (XXV)	15 December 1970
302 (IV)	8 December 1949	2791 (XXVI)	6 December 1971
393 (V)	2 December 1950	2792 A to E (XXVI)	6 December 1971
513 (VI)	26 January 1952	2963 A to E (XXVII)	13 December 1972
614 (VII)	6 November 1952	2964 (XXVII)	13 December 1972
720 (VIII)	27 November 1953	3089 A to E (XXVIII)	7 December 1973
818 (IX)	4 December 1954	3090 (XXVIII)	7 December 1973
916 (X)	3 December 1955	3330 (XXIX)	17 December 1974
1018 (XI)	28 February 1957	3331 (XXIX)	17 December 1974
1191 (XII)	12 December 1957	3410 (XXX)	8 December 1975
1315 (XIII)	12 December 1958	31/15 A to E	23 November 1976
1456 (XIV)	9 December 1959	32/90 A to F	13 December 1977
1604 (XV)	21 April 1961	33/112 A to F	18 December 1978
1725 (XVI)	20 December 1961	34/52 A to F	23 November 1979
1856 (XVII)	20 December 1962	35/13 A to F	3 November 1980
1912 (XVIII)	3 December 1963	36/146 A to H	16 December 1981
2002 (XIX)	10 February 1965	37/120 A to K	16 December 1982
2052 (XX)	15 December 1965	38/83 A to K	15 December 1983
2154 (XXI)	17 November 1966	39/99 A to K	14 December 1984
2252 (ES-V)	4 July 1967	40/165 A to K	16 December 1985
2341 (XXII)	19 December 1967	41/69 A to K	3 December 1986
2452 (XXIII)	19 December 1968	42/69 A to K	2 December 1987
2535 (XXIV)	10 December 1969	43/57 A to J	6 December 1988
2656 (XXV)	7 December 1970	44/47 A to K	8 December 1989

2. General Assembly decision

Decision number	Date of adoption
36/462	16 March 1982

3. Reports of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA

1988: Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/43/13 and Add.1).

1989: Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/44/13 and Add.1).

4. Audited financial statements

1988: Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 5C (A/43/5/Add.3).

1989: Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5C (A/44/5/Add.3).

5. Reports of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine

1988: Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/582.

1989: Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/44/497.

6. Reports of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA

1988: Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/702.

1989: Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/44/641.

7. Reports of the Secretary-General

1988: Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council in accordance with resolution 605 (1987), S/19443, dated 21 January 1988.

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 D of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/652 (Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for the Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 E and J of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, documents A/43/653 and A/43/657 (Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 F of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, documents A/43/654 (Resumption of the ration distribution to Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 G of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/655 (Population and refugees displaced since 1967)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 H of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/581 (Revenues derived from Palestine refugee properties)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 I of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/656 (Protection of Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 K of 2 December 1987 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/43/408 (University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees)).

1989: Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 D of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 77, document A/44/505 (Offers by Members States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for the Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 E of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/44/608 (Palestinian refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 F of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 77, document A/44/506 (Resumption of the ration distribution to Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 G of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/44/507 and Corr.1 and 2 (Population and refugees displaced since 1967)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 H of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 77, document A/44/431 (Revenues derived from Palestine refugee properties)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 43/57 I of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 76, document A/44/508 (Protection of Palestine refugees)).

Report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 42/69 K of 6 December 1988 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 77, document A/44/474 (University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine Refugees)).

Notes

a/ A list of pertinent reports and other documents of the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies concerning UNRWA (notably those prior to 1987) can be found in the publication entitled UNRWA at the United Nations 1948-1986, which is available from the UNRWA Public Information Office.

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ADDENDUM

Supplement No. 13
(A/45/13)
12 October 1990

NEW YORK

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Addendum

1. The present addendum to the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to the General Assembly 1/ contains information on the financial results for 1989, an assessment of the current financial situation in 1990 and the Agency's budget for 1991. The 1991 budget will be further refined, finalized and approved as the operational budget of the Agency by the Commissioner-General for the appropriation of funds in 1991.

2. Direct assistance to the Palestine refugees is also provided by local Governments in the area of operations. Information on this assistance as provided by the Governments concerned is contained in annex I.

I. FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 1989

3. The Agency's income to the General Fund amounted to $210.9 million in 1989. Out of this amount the Agency re-allocated $7.7 million to partially fund the emergency related programmes in Lebanon and the occupied territory and $1.4 million to project funds mainly for the funding of urgent school construction in Jordan. This left the General Fund with a net income of $201.8 million, which was fully expended in 1989 and thus the Agency's working capital reserve was not increased in 1989. Currently this reserve amounts to $28.9 million, which is considered inadequate when measured against the size of the Agency's steadily growing operation and the manner in which it is funded. The Agency's financial position still needs strengthening.

4. Capital and special projects was budgeted at a level of $12.6 million for 1989 (excluding programme support costs); $1.7 million of this amount was funded by special donations and $1.3 million from the General Fund. Therefore, budgeted projects were still unfunded by the end of 1989 by an amount of $9.6 million.

II. FINANCIAL SITUATION IN 1990

5. The Agency's consolidated budget estimate for 1990 as presented to the General Assembly was $242.3 million. Of this amount $208.3 million was for the General Fund, $19 million for funded ongoing activities and $15 million for capital and special projects. The original budget was subsequently reduced to a level of $230.6 million because of a shortfall in pledged income and was authorized for expenditure at the revised level by the Commissioner-General in December 1989. In May 1990 the Commissioner-General ordered the restoration of the budget to $242.3 million because of a marked improvement in the Agency's income situation.

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6. At the time of preparing the present report the Agency expects that total income will be sufficient to cover expenditure under the General Fund and funded ongoing activities, while the capital and special projects section of the budget has only been funded by external donations up to an amount of $2.5 million. Because of the shortfall in external funding, it has been necessary to fund essential constructions amounting to $5.8 million from internal resources leaving a shortfall in funding of $6.7 million (see annex II for the total of income actually pledged against the entire budget). The effect of the shortfall in income for capital and special projects is that much-needed construction and renovation work on the Agency's education, health, relief and social service facilities will have to be delayed until additional funds are made available. This results in higher operating costs than would otherwise be necessary.

III. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

7. Separate from the regular operations covered by the UNRWA budget, the Agency continued in 1989 to operate supplementary budgets to cover emergency operations in Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza. These budgets were combined in 1990 to form one supplementary budget under the title Emergency Measures in Lebanon and the Occupied Territory (EMLOT). Total expenditure in 1989 for these activities amounted to $34.4 million. The total 1990 EMLOT budget related to "core" emergency operations amounts to $35.2 million and includes activities for which the Agency is actively seeking special funding. In addition to this, the Agency has received $3.6 million in donations from external donors for activities and commodities that are not part of the "core" programme, but for which allotments have also been made. Because of a shortfall in funding for the "core" programme, however, the Agency may find it impossible to continue this extremely important activity at its present level (see para. 13).

8. Furthermore, the Agency is operating a second supplementary budget, the Expanded Programme of Assistance (EPA), comprising several projects aimed at improving the infrastructure in the refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza. The Agency is seeking total donations of $65 million to cover this programme; to date $30.1 million has been pledged by various donors. Although the rate of receipt of new pledges has slowed considerably, several projects are funded and implementation of these projects will continue in 1991.

IV. GAZA HOSPITAL

9. Separate from the regular budget and emergency operations, the Agency is currently engaged in fund raising and preliminary planning for the construction of a general hospital in the Gaza Strip. Owing to the current international climate, however, fund raising is proving difficult for this badly needed facility. Consequently the Agency has found it necessary to slow the pace of implementation and the status of the entire project could be called into question if the present fund raising difficulties persist. The total cost of this project is $35 million of which $20 million represents construction and equipment and $15 million represents the running costs for three years.

V. MEDIUM-TERM PLAN

10. The Agency's fifth annual review of the medium-term plan has set out the Agency's programme plans, operational work plans and financial forecasts for the period 1991-1993 with the emphasis on its three substantive programmes: education, health and relief and social services. The plan has outlined long-term and specific short-term objectives, programme strategies, priorities, budgetary limitations and management directions to enable the Agency to carry out its mandate during the next few years. The medium-term plan has formed the basis for the policies that have been applied in the preparation of the 1991 budget.

VI. BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1991

11. Following the practice adopted in 1985, the Agency's proposed 1991 budget estimates are being submitted during the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the present addendum to the Commissioner-General's report. These estimates are subdivided into the following three sections: (a) General Fund, (b) funded ongoing activities and (c) capital and special projects.

A. Background

12. The Agency's total regular budget for 1991, as presented in the present document, amounts to $254.6 million, which is an increase of 5 per cent over the 1990 approved budget of $242.3 million. The corresponding percentage for the cash portion of the budget is 5.4 per cent, while the in-kind portion, representing one ninth of the total budget, has increased by 2.1 per cent.

13. In addition to this, the Agency is actively seeking special funds to maintain its emergency operation under EMLOT in 1991 at about the same level as in 1990. This represents an additional need for funds in the order of $35 million over and above the 1991 regular budget of $254.6 million. UNRWA has no resources of its own to continue this operation. Therefore, if special donations are not forthcoming very soon, the Agency will have no choice but to reduce drastically the 1991 EMLOT operation. In such an unfortunate case, the Agency will, however, endeavour to retain some of the most important emergency activities by absorbing them into the regular budget. This would be possible only through equivalent compensatory reductions in the regular budget submitted in the present document. Since the detailed allocations of such reductions have yet to be determined they are not reflected here. A final decision in this regard will be taken in early December 1990 when more information is available regarding the Agency's income for 1991 and prior to the finalization of the Agency's operational budget for 1991.

B. General Fund

14. The General Fund budget represents the minimum resources needed by the Agency to operate its major programmes and maintain its facilities. These recurrent costs for the education, health and relief and social services programmes of the Agency include costs for staff, consumable materials, transportation, contractual services, grants and subsidies. Each of these main programmes is described in greater detail in the sections that follow.

15. For 1991 the General Fund budget estimates amount to $226.4 million, of which $206.3 million represents cash expenditure and $20.1 million expenditure on donated food commodities and services. This is an increase of $18.2 million or 8.7 per cent over the approved General Fund budget for 1990 (see table 1, sect. A). Out of this increase, however, $2.6 million represents the cost of staff posts under the nutrition and supplementary feeding programme that have been transferred from funded ongoing activities pending their elimination (see para. 16). In addition, funds amounting to $3.1 million for the purchase of supplies to meet inventory requirements have been included in the operational services budget for the first time.

C. Funded ongoing activities

16. Ongoing UNRWA activities as shown in annex III are expected to be fully funded in 1990 by special contributions pledged by various donors. It is estimated that $14.1 million will be required for these activities in 1991, a decrease of $5 million, or 26.2 per cent from 1990. This decrease is due to the reorientation of the nutrition and supplementary feeding programme in 1991 with a consequent abolition of the subsidiary midday meal programme (see table 1, sect. B).

D. Capital and special projects

17. Owing to financial constraints in recent years, UNRWA has not been able to implement several needed construction projects. Resources are required in 1991 to construct schools, health clinics and other facilities to provide an acceptable standard of service to the Palestine refugees. If fully implemented, this construction programme would enable the Agency to implement its programmes more efficiently and at lower cost in the future. In 1990 only part of the $14.9 million requirement has been funded, therefore a number of these projects will be carried over into 1991 (see table 1, sect. C). If funds are not found to enable the Agency to build these much-needed facilities, additional buildings will have to be rented that will increase the overall operating costs of the Agency.

Table 1. 1990 approved budget and 1991 proposed budget estimates

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1990 Approved budget			1991 Proposed estimates		
	Cash	In-kind	Total	Cash	In-kind	Total
A. General Fund						
I. Education services						
Elementary education	57 188	16	57 204	61 753	16	61 769
Preparatory education	35 357	19	35 376	38 576	26	38 602
Vocational and professional training	6 837	805	7 642	7 665	896	8 561
Other activities	6 011	799	6 810	5 474	796	6 270
Total I	105 393	1 639	107 032	113 468	1 734	115 202
II. Health services						
Nutrition and supplementary feeding				2 615		2 615
Medical services	23 655	678	24 333	22 248	584	22 832
Environmental sanitation	6 858	351	7 209	7 338	275	7 613
Total II	30 513	1 029	31 542	32 201	859	33 060
III. Relief and social services						
Relief services	3 984	16 112	20 096	7 846	16 557	24 403
Social services	4 872	1	4 873	1 857	1	1 858
Total III	8 856	16 113	24 969	9 703	16 558	26 261
IV. Operational services						
Supply and transport services	10 091	29	10 120	13 812	994	14 806
Architectural and engineering services	4 735		4 735	5 470		5 470
Production and self-supporting units	123		123			
Total IV	14 949	29	14 978	19 282	994	20 276
V. Common services						
General management	11 580		11 580	12 994		12 994
Administrative services	18 175		18 175	18 660		18 660
Total V	29 735		29 735	31 654		31 654
Total, General Fund	189 466	18 810	208 276	206 308	20 145	226 453

Table 1 (continued)

	1990 Approved budget			1991 Proposed estimates		
	Cash	In-kind	Total	Cash	In-kind	Total
B. Funded ongoing activities						
Education services	4 406	100	4 506	4 452	123	4 575
Health services	5 294	8 985	14 279	1 033	8 221	9 254
Relief and social services	244	2	246	244	1	245
Operational services	14		14	4		4
Common services	22		22			
Total, funded ongoing activities	9 980	9 087	19 067	5 733	8 345	14 078
C. Capital and special projects						
Education services	8 846		8 846	8 114		8 114
Health services	2 534		2 534	1 506		1 506
Relief and social services	1 247		1 247	1 501		1 501
Operational services	556		556	405		405
Common services	1 788		1 788	2 501		2 501
Total, capital and special projects	14 971		14 971	14 027		14 027
Grand total	214 417	27 897	242 314	226 068	28 490	254 558

E. Staffing

18. Staff costs make up a large part of the UNRWA operational budget, as shown in table 2, sections I and II. These costs are carefully controlled and monitored throughout the operational year. The planning assumptions for the 1991 budget were: (a) to allow an increase in the education, health and relief and social services programmes to meet additional requirements due to the growth in population; (b) to increase staffing in the health and relief and social services programmes aimed at slightly improving the level of services provided by these programmes to the refugee population; and (c) to allow a limited increase in staffing levels in operational and common services to cope with the increasing demands for programme support. Table 3 contains the staffing table of the Agency. It indicates the source of funding (regular budget and extrabudgetary funds) and shows the total number of staff employed. Efforts to improve the productivity of staff are continuing through the expansion of Agency-wide training programmes and the introduction of improved equipment and facilities.

Table 2. Summary of the regular and extrabudgetary estimates classified by expenditure groups for the General Fund and funded ongoing activities

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1990 Approved budget	1991 Proposed budget
Classification by expenditure group		
I. Regular budget staff costs		
International	7 803	8 075
II. Extrabudgetary staff costs		
International	1 369	1 406
Locally recruited	145 049	157 616
III. Extrabudgetary other costs		
Services	17 899	17 024
Operational expenses	3 348	2 400
Supplies	14 999	15 865
Construction and equipment	5 453	5 883
Premises	2 725	2 695
Grants and subsidies	3 685	3 689
Reimbursements and transfers from production units	(2 884)	(2 612)
Subtotal	199 446	212 041
IV. Supplies and services in kind	27 897	28 490
Grand total	227 343	240 531

Table 3. Staff posts by grade

	Established posts United Nations		Established posts UNRWA budget		Posts provided by UNESCO and WHO		Grand total	
	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
Professional and above								
USG	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
ASG	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
D-2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
D-1	10	10	-	-	1	1	11	11
P-5	16	16	7	7	8	8	31	31
P-4	36	36	6	7	10	10	52	53
P-3	15	15	-	-	-	-	15	15
P-2/1	2	2	6	6	1	1	9	9
Subtotal	82	82	20	21	21	21	123	124
General Service								
Other services	10	10	-	-	-	-	10	10
Subtotal	10	10	-	-	-	-	10	10
Area staff								
G-18			18	18			18	18
G-17			14	16			14	16
G-16			82	88			82	88
G-15			121	123			121	123
G-14			219	240			219	240
G-13			64	66			64	66
G-12			353	362			353	362
G-11			215	222			215	222
G-10			2 657	2 679			2 657	2 679
G-9			2 113	2 135			2 113	2 135
G-8			5 029	5 140			5 029	5 140
G-7			1 450	1 478			1 450	1 478
G-6			1 333	1 397			1 333	1 397
G-5			723	765			723	765
G-4			286	287			286	287
G-3			192	190			192	190
G-2			452	456			452	456
G-1			2 979	3 025			2 979	3 025
Subtotal	-	-	18 300	18 687	-	-	18 300	18 687
Grand total	92	92	18 320	18 708	21	21	18 433	18 821

Note: Some 36 international and 386 area staff short-term posts are not included in this listing in 1990 and are paid out of extrabudgetary resources raised to cover the continuing emergency in Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza.

19. At the time of the review of the 1991 budget, the total number of area staff posts in the Agency was 18,300. It is planned that this number will increase in 1991 by about 387 posts.

F. Non-staff costs

20. Expenditure in 1991 will increase for the purchase of supplies, minor construction and the replacement of unserviceable equipment but is counterbalanced by reductions in planned expenditure on services and operational expenses. Estimated expenditure in 1991 for goods and services is $73.4 million, compared to $73.1 million in 1990.

VII. PROGRAMMES

21. In 1991 the education programme accounts for 50.2 per cent of the total budget, while health services represent 17.3 per cent, relief and social services 11 per cent, operational services 8.1 per cent, and common services 13.4 per cent. Each of these substantive operations is described below.

A. Education

22. The Agency's education programme consists of elementary and preparatory schooling and vocational and professional training in Agency-run training centres. A small scholarship programme is operated to help young refugee students seeking higher education in or near the Agency's area of operations. Currently the general education programme for elementary and preparatory age group students provides schooling for 364,000 pupils, enrolled in 634 Agency schools, supported by a teaching staff of 10,630. In addition to those pupils in Agency schools, there are 9,700 refugee students subsidized by the Agency enrolled in government or private schools in Lebanon. Projections for the 1991/92 school year indicate an increase of about 6,200 pupils requiring 148 additional teachers in the autumn of 1991.

23. The vocational and professional training programme operates out of eight training centres situated in the area of operations providing 5,160 training places for Palestine refugee students. The type and content of courses are continually updated by the Agency so that students are provided with the best opportunity to obtain employment and participate in the continuing development of the region. In the current academic year, UNRWA awarded 540 scholarships for students to attend universities.

24. The policy initiatives taken in the 1991 general education budget for implementation during the 1991/92 school year are as follows:

(a) To increase the number of elementary and preparatory teachers, head teachers and school supervisors necessary to cope with the natural increase in the school population;

(b) To expand the number of support posts in certain areas aimed at improving the effective use of existing resources in the education programme;

(c) To provide an enhanced vocational training programme by developing and introducing new courses and redeploying resources previously used in courses that are cancelled because they no longer provide students with the skills needed for employment.

25. Estimated costs for the education programme amount to $127.9 million in 1991, an increase of 6.2 per cent. The decrease in the budget at headquarters is due to a reduction in the staff costs reserve. The spread of expenditure in the Agency's area of operations is shown in table 4.

Table 4. Education programme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	30 687	8 813	17 407	32 853	16 639	2 397	108 796
1990 approved budget	32 920	10 756	17 179	29 791	16 018	13 719	120 383
1991 proposed budget	33 761	10 469	20 796	36 553	18 306	8 006	127 891
Number of students:							
1990/91	98 620	34 581	57 704	136 939	41 419	-	369 263
1991/92	100 669	35 226	59 069	138 983	41 649	-	375 596
Number of area staff:							
1990	3 077	1 467	1 941	4 380	1 805	64	12 734
1991	3 123	1 483	1 967	4 447	1 823	67	12 910

B. Health

26. Primary health care is provided through curative and preventive medical care services and maternal and child health programmes. These programmes are operated through a network of 104 health centres, 2 Agency hospitals and 41 dental clinics, which provide services to about 2.2 million Palestine refugees eligible for health care. In addition the Agency will subsidize 476 hospital beds for refugees in private hospitals and offer health education in 634 UNRWA schools.

27. UNRWA provides basic community sanitation services in 61 camp locations, housing Palestine refugees and displaced persons. These services cover the provision of potable water, sanitary disposal of solid and liquid wastes, drainage of storm water and the control of disease-carrying insects and rodents.

28. The policy objectives incorporated into the 1991 budget have been aimed at improving the health services offered to refugees by reducing morbidity and disability through implementing the survival strategies and approaches adopted by

the World Health Organization (WHO) for realization of the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000; expanding coverage and quality of maternal health care; introducing multidisciplinary programmes for the detection and management of physical disabilities and prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. As a result of a review of the effectiveness of the supplementary feeding programme, a decision has been made to substitute part of it, i.e. the midday meal programme, by an alternative strategy as from 1 January 1991. The cash resources released through the discontinuation of this activity will be used for improvements in the health, education and relief and social services programmes. Although cooked meals will no longer be provided, food commodities will still be distributed in the form of dry rations to those beneficiaries who have regularly attended in the past. This activity will be phased out over a period of three years.

29. Estimated costs for the health programme amount to $43.8 million in 1991, which is a decrease of 9.4 per cent over 1990. This decrease is due to the reorientation of the nutrition and supplementary feeding programme with a consequent cessation of the subsidiary midday meal programme and the limitation of hospitalization costs to 10 per cent of the health budget. The decrease in the budget at headquarters is due to a reduction in the staff costs reserve. The spread of expenditure in the Agency's area of operations is shown in table 5.

Table 5. Health programme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	11 978	6 215	7 366	8 955	9 980	1 228	45 722
1990 approved budget	11 428	7 517	6 453	9 068	10 300	3 589	48 355
1991 proposed budget	11 862	5 576	6 274	8 920	8 596	2 592	43 820
Number of beneficiaries:							
1990	432 212	261 898	251 460	845 436	319 761	-	2 110 767
1991	447 339	271 064	260 261	875 026	330 953	-	2 184 643
Number of area staff:							
1990	817	551	425	821	629	14	3 257
1991	834	593	437	869	653	14	3 400

C. Relief and social services

30. The major goal of the relief services part of the programme is to provide support to disadvantaged individuals and groups among the Palestine refugees and promote self-reliance. Limited cash grants, basic food rations, blankets, clothing and shelter are provided to the special hardship cases and an adult training programme is operated aimed at improving the income-earning ability of the family unit. About 7 per cent of the registered refugee population is in the special hardship case category. Because of increased economic difficulties in the Agency's area of operations, the number of special hardship case applications is expected to increase by 7,200 in 1991 to a total of 161,600. Food and clothing are distributed to the eligible refugees through a network of distribution centres and points located in the camps, with food distributed either monthly or bi-monthly and clothing distributed twice annually.

31. The social services part of the programme is adopting a multidisciplinary approach to the problems of disadvantaged families linking social workers, community health nurses, teachers and other front-line community workers. Increased opportunities are planned for refugees to support their families economically through income-generation projects and skill training. It is also planned to give greater support to refugee women in their roles in the family and community, and further promote community-based rehabilitation of the disabled.

32. Estimated costs for the relief and social services programme amount to $28 million for 1991, an increase of 5.8 per cent over 1990. This increase is due to an increase in the number of special hardship cases and the planned expansion of the programme as noted above. The spread of expenditure throughout the Agency's area of operations is shown in table 6.

Table 9. Relief and social services programme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	8 561	5 545	2 711	4 832	6 106	534	28 289
1990 approved budget	6 956	5 983	2 808	5 132	4 347	1 236	26 462
1991 proposed budget	7 825	5 938	2 996	5 283	4 752	1 213	28 007
Number of beneficiaries:							
Regular category refugees							
1990	349 417	260 713	252 816	852 538	324 654	-	2 040 138
1991	362 390	269 778	262 573	888 701	339 625	-	2 123 067
Special hardship cases							
1990	47 615	39 204	13 755	30 450	23 300	-	154 324
1991	50 993	38 851	15 158	29 718	26 855	-	161 575
Number of area staff:							
1990	198	85	58	122	121	20	604
1991	206	88	60	125	132	20	621

D. Operational services

33. The three substantive programmes of the Agency are supported by a supply and transport operation and an architectural and civil engineering services group. The supply and transport operation provides procurement, warehousing, freight transport and passenger transport services in all the areas of operation. In 1990, 96,500 tons of basic commodities and 6,500 tons of general cargo are being handled through a network of central and satellite warehouses for final distribution to the beneficiaries of the Agency's programmes. The Agency's fleet of vehicles is used to transport commodities and general stores, for garbage collection, water distribution, sewage clearance services and for the transport services required by the education, health and relief and social services programmes. In total, the Agency has a fleet of 678 vehicles. All of these vehicles are maintained by the Agency's vehicle maintenance staff. The proposed budget for the supply and transport operation in 1991 is $14.8 million, an increase of 39.6 per cent over 1990. The increase in the budget is due mainly to the inclusion of a provision of $3.1 million for the purchase of supplies for the replenishment of inventory, $0.6 million for additional port charges in the Syrian Arab Republic and Israel and increased staff costs.

34. The architectural and civil engineering group is responsible for the design of all new Agency facilities and for the maintenance of existing Agency premises. In 1990 the staff are working on the design of buildings to the value of $82.2 million, supervising construction worth $34.2 million and implementing a maintenance programme of $3.3 million. The budget estimate for architectural and civil engineering services in 1991 is $5.9 million, an increase of 22.9 per cent over 1990. The increase is due to planned additional expenditure on the maintenance of Agency premises and increased staff costs. The increase in the support costs associated with the construction of new facilities is, in most cases, recovered as a direct charge to the construction funds.

35. The increase in the number of staff in operational services, mainly driver posts, is 2.7 per cent over the staffing level for 1990. The cost of providing this support to the substantive programmes in the Agency's area of operations is illustrated in table 7.

Table 7. Operational services

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	2 476	1 608	2 039	1 837	2 084	5 888	15 832
1990 approved budget	2 581	1 572	1 902	1 738	3 087	4 688	15 568
1991 proposed budget	2 943	1 739	3 087	2 606	4 126	6 190	20 691
Number of area staff:							
1990	197	181	140	110	140	47	815
1991	206	183	142	110	148	48	837

E. Common services

36. Common services support all programmes run by the Agency and cover two distinct areas: general management and administrative services. General management consists of the office of the Commissioner-General and Deputy Commissioner-General, the offices reporting directly to them (Office of the Co-ordinator of Operations, External Relations, Public Information, Internal Audit, Provident Fund Secretariat and Programme Planning and Evaluation Office), the Department of Legal Affairs and the Office of the Director in each field. Administrative services include financial, personnel and data-processing functions.

37. The proposed budget for common services in 1991 is $34.1 million, an increase of 8.2 per cent over 1990. The increase in the budget provision is due mainly to an increase in staff costs because of exchange rate movements and salary increases. The increase in the number of posts is 2.1 per cent over the staffing level for 1990. The costs of providing these services to the substantive programmes in the Agency's area of operations is shown in table 8.

Table 8. Common services

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	1 971	1 788	1 769	2 024	2 831	13 991	24 374
1990 approved budget	2 261	1 935	1 860	2 213	2 476	20 821	31 566
1991 proposed budget	2 857	1 881	2 009	2 229	3 317	21 866	34 159
Number of area staff:							
1990	132	160	108	147	195	158	900
1991	135	162	109	148	203	162	919

38. The consolidated budget as allocated among the Agency's area of operations is shown in table 9.

Table 9. All services

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Gaza	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic	Jordan	West Bank	Head-quarters	Total
1989 expenditure	55 673	23 969	31 292	50 601	37 640	23 838	223 013
1990 approved budget	56 146	27 763	30 202	47 942	36 228	44 033	242 314
1991 proposed budget	59 248	25 603	35 162	55 591	39 087	39 867	254 558
Number of area staff:							
1990	4 421	2 444	2 672	5 580	2 890	293	18 300
1991	4 504	2 509	2 715	5 699	2 959	301	18 687

VIII. FINANCING THE 1991 BUDGET

39. The cash and in-kind income required to finance the 1991 budget is shown in the following table:

	Cash	In-kind	Total
	(Millions of United States dollars)		
A. General Fund	206.3	20.2	226.5
B. Funded ongoing activities	5.7	8.4	14.1
C. Capital and special projects	14.0	-	14.0
Total	226.0	28.6	254.6

40. Apart from its limited working capital, UNRWA has no other financial reserves on which to draw to finance the 1991 budget. Funding of the Agency's programmes in 1991 will depend on the contributions received from donors. These contributions are normally made to the Agency in two forms: cash and in-kind, the latter in most cases are donations of basic commodities and services.

A. Cash requirements

41. To continue its education, health and relief and social services programmes in 1991, UNRWA will need $206.3 million in cash for its General Fund. Continuing support of about $5.7 million is anticipated for the specially funded ongoing activities, which is about $4.3 million less than in 1990. In addition to the above cash resources, a further $14.0 million will be needed for capital and special projects. Special donations will be sought for these projects.

B. In-kind requirements

42. The in-kind requirements for 1991 are estimated at $28.6 million, representing an increase of $0.6 million over 1990. It has been customary for some donors to make in-kind contributions of basic commodities and services to UNRWA in the past and it is anticipated that these contributions will be adequate in 1991.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/45/13).

ANNEX I

Direct government assistance to Palestine refugees a/

(1 July 1989-30 June 1990)

	Egypt	Israel b/	Jordan	Lebanon b/	Syrian Arab Republic
Education services	130 000 000		58 211 900		26 104 516
Social welfare services	7 000 000		2 815 725		1 329 183
Medical services			13 858 531		1 059 155
Housing and public services			6 170 310		4 685 580
Security services	285 000 000 c/		4 781 421		2 816 491
Administrative and other services			5 343 048		27 612 830
Total	422 000 000		91 180 935		63,607,755

Note. All data in the table above is shown as reported by the Governments concerned and is expressed in United States dollars computed by applying United Nations operational rates of exchange.

a/ This assistance was rendered directly to the refugees, in addition to contributions to UNRWA (see annex II).

b/ Figures not received.

c/ Figure includes housing and public services, security, administrative and other services.

ANNEX II

Contributions pledged (or otherwise estimated based on earlier contributions) for the 1990 regular budget (General Fund, funded ongoing activities, capital and special projects) as at 30 September 1990

(United States dollars)

Contributors	Cash	In-kind	Total
I. Contributions from Governments			
Australia	2 181 460	-	2 181 460
Austria	239 883	-	239 883
Bahrain	15 000	-	15 000
Barbados	1 000	-	1 000
Belgium	595 611	-	595 611
Brazil	10 000	-	10 000
Brunei Darussalam	10 000	-	10 000
Cameroon	4 000	-	4 000
Canada	8 407 080	-	8 407 080
Chile	5 000	-	5 000
China	50 000	-	50 000
Colombia	2 077	-	2 077
Cyprus	2 494	-	2 494
Denmark	5 011 401	-	5 011 401
Egypt	3 690	-	3 690
Finland	4 096 701	-	4 096 701
France	1 889 286	2 000	1 891 286
Germany, Federal Republic of a/	7 280 873	-	7 280 873
Greece	80 000	-	80 000
Holy See	20 000	-	20 000
Iceland	8 185	-	8 185
India	13 006	-	13 006
Indonesia	8 000	-	8 000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	30 000	-	30 000
Ireland	117 038	-	117 038
Israel	-	68 900	68 900
Italy	14 183 620	-	14 183 620
Jamaica	3 000	-	3 000
Japan	10 129 539	4 879 000	15 008 539
Jordan	-	363 314	363 314
Kuwait	1 000 000	-	1 000 000
Lebanon	-	542	542
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1 000 000	-	1 000 000
Luxembourg	40 698	-	40 698
Malaysia	10 000	-	10 000
Maldives	1 000	-	1 000
Malta	1 000	-	1 000

Contributors	Cash	In-kind	Total
Mauritius	1 000	-	1 000
Mexico	2 127	-	2 127
Monaco	4 021	-	4 021
Myanmar	1 000	-	1 000
Netherlands	3 266 706	-	3 266 706
New Zealand	122 380	-	122 380
Norway	10 046 565	-	10 046 565
Oman	4 000	-	4 000
Pakistan	16 242	-	16 242
Philippines	2 000	-	2 000
Portugal	25 000	-	25 000
Qatar	100 000	-	100 000
Republic of Korea	10 000	-	10 000
Saudi Arabia	1 200 000	-	1 200 000
Senegal	2 000	-	2 000
Singapore	3 000	-	3 000
Spain	2 362 373	-	2 362 373
Sri Lanka	-	2 000	2 000
Sweden	15 686 248	-	15 686 248
Switzerland	2 541 093	4 468 084	7 009 177
Syrian Arab Republic	-	26 442	26 442
Thailand	12 973	-	12 973
Tunisia	10 200	-	10 200
Turkey	35 000	-	35 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	9 274 135	-	9 274 135
United States of America	57 000 000	-	57 000 000
Venezuela	10 000	-	10 000
Subtotal	158 188 705	9 810 282	167 998 987
II. Contributions from inter-governmental organizations			
European Community	35 119 872	20 681 523	55 801 395
Subtotal	35 119 872	20 681 523	55 801 395

Contributors	Cash	In-kind	Total
III. Contributions from the United Nations and specialized agencies			
United Nations (from regular budget)	7 800 000	-	7 800 000
UNESCO	-	1 349 665	1 349 665
UNDP	39 300	-	39 300
UNICEF	8 000	173 623	181 623
WHO	35 000	609 660	644 660
Subtotal	7 882 300	2 132 948	10 015 248
IV. Other contributions			
American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA)	-	6 353	6 353
Arabian American Oil Co. (ARAMCO), Saudi Arabia	220 000	-	220 000
Australian Care for Refugees (AUSTCARE)	49 623	-	49 623
Co-operation for Development, United Kingdom	46 874	-	46 874
Gaza Authorities	-	89 509	89 509
Mennonite Central Committee	10 448	-	10 448
Near East Council of Churches (NECC)	32 555	-	32 555
Norwegian Refugee Council	91 805	-	91 805
Pontifical Mission for Palestine	80 000	-	80 000
Prodonta, Switzerland	-	146 305	146 305
Red Crescent, Kuwait	-	66 404	66 404
Red Cross, German Democratic Republic a/	-	15 060	15 060
Rissho Kosei-Kai	89 310	-	89 310
Swedish Save the Children Fund (Rädda Barnen)	179 604	-	179 604
Swiss German Aid	10 000	-	10 000
Sundry contributors	1 004 972	15 698	1 020 670
Subtotal	1 815 191	339 329	2 154 520
Grand total	203 006 068	32 964 082	235 970 150

a/ With effect from 3 October 1990, the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic united to form one sovereign State under the designation "Germany".

ANNEX III

Ongoing activities, fully funded by donors in 1991

Title	Thousands of United States dollars
1. Supplementary feeding programme, funded by the European Community	9 017
2. Mobile Health Team, Gaza, funded by Rädda Barnen, Sweden	244
3. Gaza Centre for the Blind, funded by the Pontifical Mission and other donors	245
4. University Scholarships funded by ARAMCO	69
5. Ramallah Men's and Women's Training Centres, funded by the Government of Denmark	2 420
6. Mobile Dental Unit, Jordan, funded by the Near East Council of Churches	13
7. Dental Unit Amman Polyclinic, Jordan, funded by the Near East Council of Churches	15
8. Gaza Vocational Training Centre, funded by the Government of Italy	1 951
9. Qalqilia Hospital, West Bank	104
	14 078